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# Jordan Times

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## 26 killed in Russian plane crash

MOSCOW (AFP) — A Russian Yak-40 plane crashed in central Siberia on Monday, killing 26 people, three of them crew and the rest passengers, the ministry for emergency situations said. The ministry said bad weather caused the crash of the short-haul twin-jet aircraft, which was flying from Krasnoyarsk to Tura, some 1,000 kilometres to the north. It came down 40 kilometres outside Vanavara inside the autonomous region of Evenki, Interfax quoted the ministry as saying. The crew had decided to attempt a landing at Vanavara, but failed to reach the town. Two helicopter crew who arrived on the scene shortly afterwards said the Yak had been completely destroyed and that all on board must have been killed. The civilian plane's normal maximum capacity is 27 passengers.

## 5 Lebanese to face court over leaflets

BEIRUT (AFP) — Five Lebanese have been arrested and referred to a military court for distributing leaflets calling for "popular protests" against any deal giving Lebanon to Syria as the price for peace with Israel, their lawyer said on Monday. Mohammad Moghrabi said his clients had called for "popular protests in the event that an agreement is reached giving Lebanon to Syria in exchange for a Syrian-Israeli peace treaty." The leaflets, signed by a group calling itself the "Free Patriotic Front," reflected "the innocent expression of an opinion — a freedom guaranteed under the constitution," Mr. Moghrabi said. His clients were referred to a military court Thursday. He denied that their action was a "crime," called for their immediate release and said they should only go before a civilian court in any event.

## Libya sacks senior trade unionist

TUNIS (R) — A senior Libyan trade union official related to the country's second-in-command has been sacked in what North African unionists said appeared to be a purge of opponents of Col. Muammar Qaddafi. Salem Jalloud, who was deputy secretary-general of Libya's Trades Union Congress, was not included in the new leadership named during a two-day congress which started on Sunday. North African trade unionists said on Monday, Salem Jalloud is a relative of Major Abdul Salam Jalloud, Libya's second in command who has no official title and is reported to have quit politics because he disapproved of domestic and foreign policies pursued by Col. Qaddafi. Diplomats said Col. Qaddafi has recently purged Maj. Jalloud's sympathisers from the administration, the army and the revolutionary committees through which Libya is controlled.

## Israelis pay official visit to Bahrain

TEL AVIV (AFP) — An Israeli delegation will go to Bahrain at the end of the week to prepare for the first official visit by a minister from the Jewish state, officials said Monday. The foreign ministry team will lay the ground for the trip by Environment Minister Yossi Sarid who will attend a session of the multilateral Middle East peace talks on Oct. 24-25. Foreign ministry official Yossi Gal will lead the delegation to Manama. Israel established a bridgehead to the Gulf in April when Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin visited Oman and defence ministry official David Ivry went to Qatar in May. Their visit also came in the framework of the multilateral talks with the working group on water meeting in Muscat and the arms control group in Qatar.

# Rabin approves plan for new W. Bank settlements

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)** — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who curbed Israeli construction in the occupied territories two years ago, has approved new housing for a Jewish settlement just inside the West Bank, officials said on Monday.

The move — which drew immediate condemnation from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) — appeared to be designed to tighten Israel's hold on a section of the West Bank directly across the border from where the Jewish state is only 11 kilometres wide. "It is on the 'seam'," said Rabin spokesman Oded Ben-Ami, asked about a report in the Haaretz newspaper that Mr. Rabin had given permission for new housing in the Alfei Menashe settlement, three kilometres inside the West Bank. He said the term "seam" was a reference to areas just "100 metres or so" across the pre-1967 war border with the West Bank. "It (the building project) is in Alfei Menashe on the 'seam' but on the other side, in the West Bank — but very near the green line (border)," a housing ministry official told Reuters. On taking office two years ago, Mr. Rabin froze the construction of about 10,000 housing units in the occupied territories and allowed work to continue on 13,700 homes whose foundations had been laid.

The decision helped win Israel vital loan guarantees totalling \$10 billion from the United States — which had described settlements as obstacles to peace — to fund a wave of Jewish immigration from the former Soviet Union.

"It is very regrettable that Prime Minister Rabin has authorised such an expansion of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories," Marwan Kanafani, an aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, said about the Alfei Menashe decision.

"This violates in letter and spirit all the agreements that the (Palestinian) National Authority signed with the Israeli government," he told Reuters.

Despite what he called Israeli efforts to play down the decision on new construction, "the expansion is taking place inside the occupied territories, regardless of the distance from the border," Mr. Kanafani said. He said the PLO would raise the issue with Israel. Many of the "seam" settlements were established under the right-wing Likud government when hardliner Ariel Sharon was housing minister. Mr. Rabin curbed such construction, but as Israel implements the peace deal that will expand Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank, it is apparently looking to beef up a buffer of Jewish settlements between densely populated central Israel and West Bank Arab towns directly across

the border. In addition, moving families just past the frontier would help alleviate a housing shortage in the greater Tel Aviv area.

On Monday, Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat met in an Israeli army camp at the entrance to Palestinian-ruled Gaza for a summit that ended in an unusual display of harmony between the two former enemies.

Mr. Ben-Ami declined to say how many new housing units would be built and the housing ministry official had no other details.

Haaretz reported that construction plans would be renewed for 844 apartments at Givat Tal, within the jurisdiction area of Alfei Menashe. It also said 150 new flats would be built within Alfei Menashe itself, now home to 950 families.

The newspaper quoted government sources as saying the housing ministry had prepared an additional list of settlements in which building would be resumed. The areas included Jerusalem and the West Bank town of Kalkilya. Talks on a permanent settlement in which the Palestinians will demand full sovereignty instead of autonomy are to begin by 1996.

But even a moderate Israeli government, such as the current one, is certain to press for keeping some of the territory occupied in 1967 in order to widen Israel's perilously narrow coastal strip — it is less than 32 kilometres

from Kalkilya to the Mediterranean Sea — and ensure its control over all of Jerusalem.

Israel hopes to strengthen its position by increasing the Jewish population in such areas, Haaretz quoted government sources as saying.

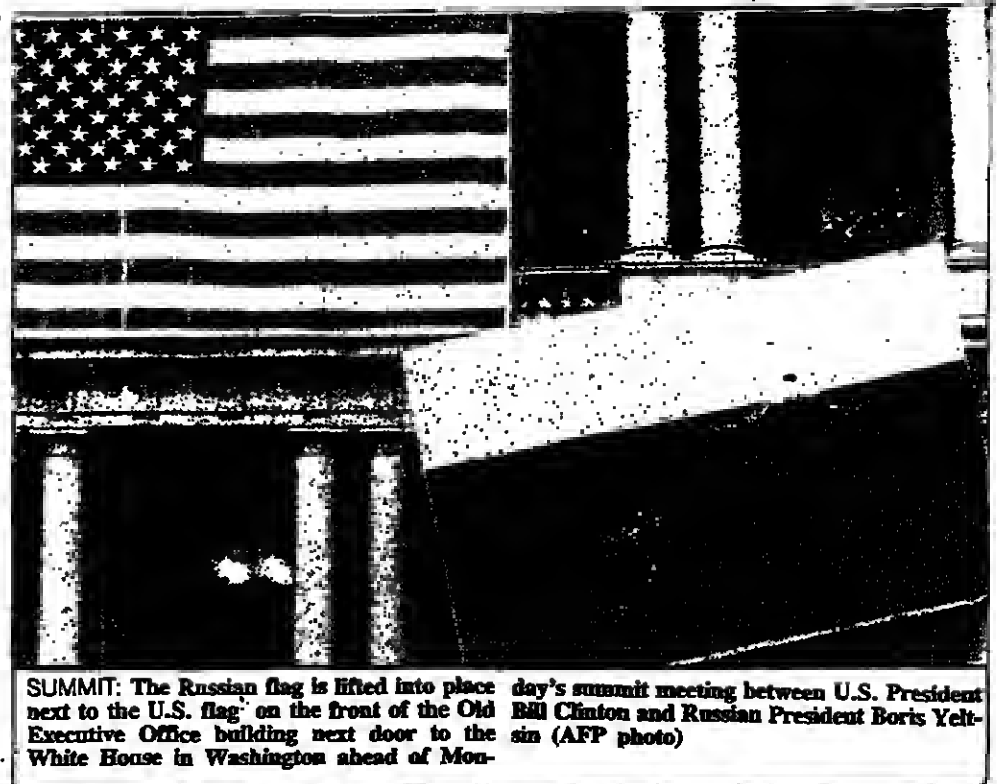
In Alfei Menashe the construction of nearly 1,000 apartments will begin in six months. The mayor, Shlomo Katan, told Haaretz that this would double Alfei Menashe's population within two or three years.

Some 120,000 settlers live in about 130 West Bank settlements, and their future is one of the toughest issues in the Israeli-PLO negotiations.

Israeli concern over the security of settlers has delayed the second phase of Palestinian self-rule in which Israeli troops are to pull out of West Bank towns in preparation for Palestinian general elections. Autonomy began in May in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Khalil Tufakji, the Palestinian self-rule authority's consultant on settlements, maintained Israel was hoping to increase the Jewish presence along a six-kilometre east-west corridor linking Israel to Jordan.

Housing ministry spokeswoman Ofra Preuss confirmed that the construction freeze was lifted in the settlement of Alfei Menashe, but said she was not aware there was a list of others. She gave no other details.



SUMMIT: The Russian flag is hoisted into place day's summit meeting between U.S. President next to the U.S. flag on the front of the Old Executive Office building next door to the White House in Washington ahead of Mon-

# Jordan dismisses as untrue Israeli report of draft accord

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan on Monday dismissed as untrue Israeli reports that the Kingdom and the Jewish state were drawing up a draft peace agreement.

Marwan Muasher, spokesman for the Jordanian delegation to peace talks with Israel, reaffirmed that a peace treaty with Israel could come only after border and water disputes were satisfactorily resolved.

Dr. Muasher was commenting on Israeli reports that Jordanian and Israeli officials were putting the "finishing touches" to an agreement.

"It is untrue," Dr. Muasher said in the reports. "A peace agreement depends on resolution to all outstanding issues," including territorial claims and demands for a fair share of the region's waters, he told the Jordan Times.

"We have not reached that point. Therefore there is no question of a peace agreement at this point in time, draft or otherwise," Dr.

Muasher said.

The spokesman also said a round of Israeli-Jordanian negotiations scheduled for this week was likely to be cancelled. If at all the talks were held, he said, they would be "low key," at "experts' level."

The reason for the cancellation was the absence of most of the negotiators. Jordanian chief negotiator Fayez Tarawneh, who is also the Kingdom's ambassador to the U.S., is in Washington ahead of a visit there by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Israel's chief delegate, Eliakim Rubinstein, a senior foreign ministry official, is also in Washington along with several of his fellow negotiators.

Israeli foreign ministry officials were meanwhile quoted as saying by Reuters that U.S. President Bill Clinton would host Crown Prince Hassan and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres at the White House next week. No date has been set for the meeting yet, the unidentified officials were quoted as saying.

Earlier, Jordanian sources said the Crown Prince, who is scheduled to address the U.N. General Assembly next week, would meet with Mr. Peres in a meeting also attended by U.S. Vice-President Al Gore.

A Jordanian source close to the peace negotiations said: "There are discussions going on to arrange a top-level meeting; it is not clear yet whether President Clinton or Vice-President Gore would host the meeting, or whether it would be at the U.N. in New York or in Washington."

According to the Israeli newspapers Maariv and Haaretz and military radio, a date for signing the purported Jordanian-Israeli peace accord would be announced at the White House meeting of President Clinton, Crown Prince Hassan and Mr. Peres.

The Jordanian source denied the report. "I don't think that is possible or realistic, given that Jordan and Israel are a long way from a peace agreement."

(Continued on page 7)

# Clinton lifts unilateral U.S. sanctions on Haiti

## Marines launch cash-for-guns exchange

**UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)** — U.S. President Bill Clinton announced Monday that he was suspending all unilateral sanctions against Haiti — but not its military leaders — and urged other countries to follow suit.

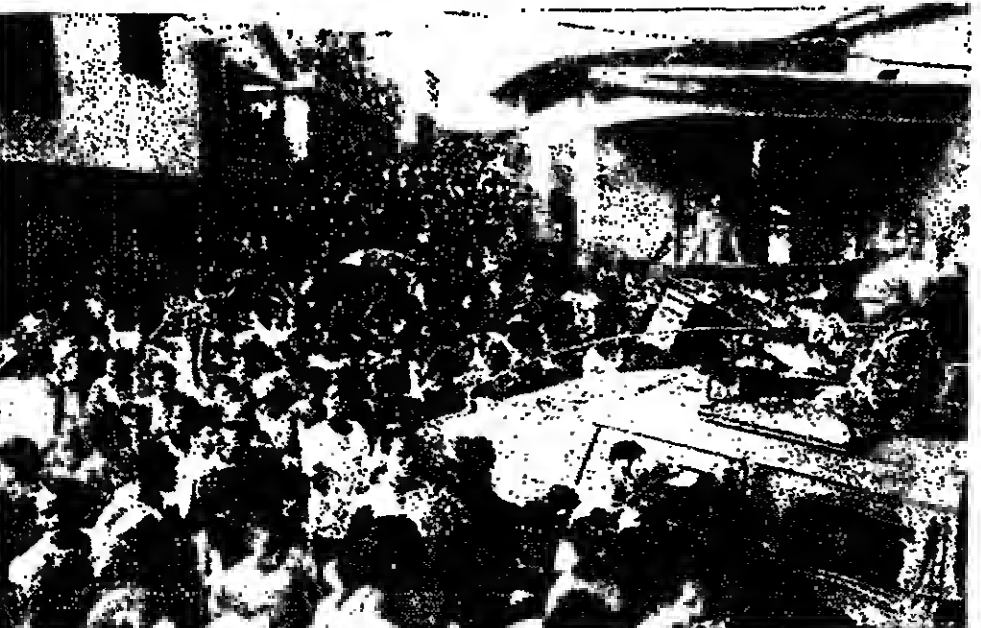
"I am announcing that the United States will suspend all unilateral sanctions against Haiti except those that affect the military leaders and their immediate supporters," Mr. Clinton told the U.N. General Assembly.

"I urge all other nations to do the same," he said.

The president said he was lifting in particular the ban on commercial flights to the Caribbean nation and on financial transactions between the United States and Haiti.

The United States had frozen Haiti's assets earlier this year in an effort to force the military to step down. Their assets will likely remain frozen until they leave power.

Mr. Clinton said he would also call on the U.N. Security Council to ease the U.N. embargo to allow the United States to provide badly needed assistance to the impoverished nation. The United States would move expeditiously to restore water, electricity, health care, communications and provide construction materials as well as agricultural and educational materials, he said.



A U.S. military patrol rides the streets of the Belair district of Port-au-Prince (AFP photo)

ited States was making progress in restoring civil order and clearing the way for the reestablishment of democracy. American troops "are giving the people of Haiti their chance at freedom," he said. "In Haiti, the United States is demonstrating that it would lead a national force when our interests are plain, when the cause is right, when the mission is achievable and the nations of the world stand with us."

U.S. forces will later this year be replaced by some 6,000 U.N. forces which will remain through 1995 when a new president will be elected. During this time, Mr. Clinton said, a multinational development effort will make available more than one billion dollars for rebuilding Haiti.

Meanwhile U.S. Marines, now the only law in Haiti's second-biggest city, announced a cash-for-guns programme to reduce the number of weapons in circulation.

A day earlier, hundreds of guns flooded into the streets of Cap-Haitien after Haitians looted police stations and military barracks that had been abandoned by soldiers and policemen. Many residents then turned over the guns to American forces rather than give them to the hated Haitian military.

U.S. military spokesman Colonel Barry Willey said, starting Tuesday, American soldiers would offer \$50 per handgun, \$100 for semi-automatic weapons and \$200 for automatic weapons.

Earlier, Haiti's military leaders ordered citizens to surrender their weapons at Haitian army outposts. It was not known if any had complied.

To discourage more spontaneous street celebrations, U.S. Marines also reduced their patrols overnight in Cap-Haitien, keeping a low profile in a situation that has changed dramatically over the last few days. Elsewhere:

A U.S. coast guard cutter was expected Monday in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital. It carried 221 Haitian refugees from the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, who were picked up at sea while trying to flee to the United States. All have volunteered to return.

Pro-Aristide groups announced that political demonstrations would be held Thursday and Friday to commemorate the third anniversary of Mr. Aristide's ouster.

In Port-au-Prince, about 10,000 Haitians gathered Sunday night in an outpouring of support for U.S. soldiers. The celebrants massed around the airport to gawk at the U.S. war machinery; one Haitian pushed a wheelbarrow containing a mock coffin for deposed junta leader Raoul Cedras.

Few of Haiti's security forces dared appear in Cap-Haitien after a Marine patrol

(Continued on page 7)

# Algiers says top GIA leader killed

**ALGIERS (Agencies)** — The leader of a militant Muslim fundamentalist faction that has vowed to derail peace talks was killed by security forces Monday, the government announced.

A security force communiqué said Cherif Goumri, also known as Abn Abdallah Ahmed, was slain in the Algiers region, but gave no other details. Goumri headed the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which opposes any negotiations that would thwart its goal of installing a radical Islamic state.

Goumri's group has claimed responsibility for an assassination campaign that has killed 60 foreigners in the past year. In the latest attack, Jure Markovic, a surveyor from Bosnia, was killed Monday while driving in eastern Algeria.

Security forces also reported the assassination of an Algerian journalist and the abduction of a popular singer who opposed fundamentalism. Both incidents bore the hallmarks of the Armed Islamic Group or other fundamentalist militants.

Small Sbaghdi, 56, a journalist with the state-run Algerian Press Agency, was shot while riding in a taxi late Sunday in Bachdjarrh, a fundamentalist stronghold on the eastern outskirts of Algiers, authorities said.

Sbaghdi, who died at a local hospital, was the second journalist killed in 24 hours. Mouloud Barroudi, photo-

grapher for the national agency of filmed news, was fatally stabbed in Tipaza, west of Algiers, early Sunday.

The singer, Lounes Matoub, was kidnapped Sunday evening near Tizi-Ouzou, largest city in the Kabylie region dominated by the Berbers, Algeria's largest ethnic minority.

The Berber Cultural Movement (MCB) threatened "total war" on Algerian Islamic fundamentalists if they did not promptly release the kidnapped singer.

Mr. Matoub, 38, is known for his anti-fundamentalist views.

The MCB claimed he was taken by "elements claiming to represent Islamic armed groups."

"If Matoub is not returned safe and sound to his family within 48 hours, a total war will be waged against all of them (the kidnappers) and all those, without exception, who help them in any way," the MCB statement said.

It warned that the government would also bear responsibility for the kidnapping. Mr. Matoub has been an active figure in the MCB, which represents members of Algeria's 17 per cent Berber-speaking minority.

(Continued on page 3)

# Yeltsin proposes global nuclear treaty

**WASHINGTON (Agencies)** — Russian President Boris Yeltsin was ready to propose Monday a global treaty on nuclear security and disarmament among the five nuclear powers, Russian sources said.

According to a confidential document, the treaty would call for a total suspension of production of nuclear material for military use.

It would also guarantee that nuclear material from dismantled nuclear weapons not be reused, and provide for the reduction of the number of delivery systems.

Mr. Yeltsin was to propose a global security treaty in a speech later in the day to the U.N. General Assembly, according to a source close to the Russian delegation.

Details of the treaty, called the Treaty of Nuclear Security and Strategic Stability, were contained in the document obtained by news agencies.

(Continued on page 7)

هنا من الأصل



## Pollution threatens Lebanon's efforts to build new image

BEIRUT (AFP) — War-battered Lebanon, once the fabled land of milk and honey, has been starkly reminded of the threat to its reconstruction drive posed by pollution, with the recent discovery of dozens of abandoned barrels of hazardous waste.

"Lebanon was green but now it has dried up like a leaf," Health Minister Marwan Hamade complained recently.

Most of the environmental problems facing Lebanon emerged during the country's devastating 1975-1990 civil war, when militias ruled the streets in the absence of a strong central authority.

The conflict ended at a cost of 200,000 lives, the authorities have been slow to tackle the environmental problem, still threatening Lebanon, which has an area of 10,452 square kilometres.

Amid large-scale reconstruction work quarries are still being dug out of mountains regardless of the damage they cause, household refuse rots by the roadside, factories continue pouring their waste into waterways and the once scenic coastline is subject to unbridled development.

"We are heading towards an environmental disaster if something is not done quickly," Environment Minister Samir Mokbel told AFP.

He added that his main problem since he took up his post 18 months ago was to recede the Lebanese.

"The first thing we had to do was to teach them what the environment was all about," he said.

Mr. Mokbel pledged that results would begin to emerge in early 1995.

"I am implementing the programme of the Rio summit to tackle pollution, but it is not possible to shut down all the factories," he said.

New factories will need to obtain a green light from his ministry before they start business under a new law.

which is set to be adopted in October.

Parliament is also expected to approve next month a 430-million-dollar project for treating solid waste. The scheme includes the construction of five new incinerators. Only one exists at present.

The government also plans to increase the number of garbage trucks from 108 to 278 in 1995 and garbage containers from 2,760 to 5,200.

"Within three to four years we will solve the problem of household waste once and for all," said Mr. Mokbel, who has been running the Environment Ministry from the offices of his own private business firm.

Milad Jarjui, a chemistry professor and head of a non-governmental organisation, said that "without help from the industrialised nations and international groups we won't be able to overcome our problems."

According to Mr. Jarjui, "no less than 30 sewers pour untreated effluent into the sea between Khalede and Jounieh" — two coastal towns 30 kilometres apart.

"Before the war, forests made up 15 per cent of the national territory, but according to the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), forests now cover only seven per cent of Lebanon," Mr. Jarjui said.

"Some of the damage is irreversible but we can still change all that through international assistance and nationwide public awareness," he added.

Mr. Jarjui represented Lebanon at the 1989 Basle conference on the control of the transport of dangerous industrial waste and spearheaded a drive in 1988 to prevent the entry into Lebanon of 16,000 barrels of Italian waste.

Three years later an Australian company, KSK, also tried to dump 100,000 tonnes of sewage in Lebanon, according to a report by Greenpeace.

## Prospects dim for early lifting of Iraq sanctions

(Continued from page 12) Iraq has cooperated on weapons.

But MEES pointed out that Washington has also been demanding that Iraq demonstrate its "peaceful intentions" in line with the preamble of the resolution.

It also noted, however, that "growing economic interests in Iraq on the part of Russia, France and Turkey," together with the possibility of Iraq joining the Middle East peace process, could create a momentum against Washington's position.

Turkish stand

Turkey's new Foreign Minister Murat Soyas, who has rattled the West with his hard-line policies, said he is against a U.S.-led air force helping protect Iraqi Kurds from a Turkish base, it was reported Monday.

Mr. Soyas, a Social Democrat deputy, had been

leading an opposition campaign in the parliament against the air force, which was deployed in 1991 after the Gulf war. He was appointed foreign minister two months ago.

Mr. Soyas said he still believed that the allied force should leave. But he added: "However, saying it should leave does not mean that it will."

The force of 70 U.S., British and French aircraft sets off from Turkey's Incirlik air base daily for reconnaissance flights in the no-fly zone north of the 36th parallel to deter any Iraqi attack on the de-facto Kurdish state set up by Iraq's 3.5 million Kurds with Western support after the Gulf war.

Some critics argue that Turkey's Kurdish rebels operate freely in northern Iraq because of the power vacuum created there after the war.

Turkey is also opposed to

Iraqi Kurdish aspirations for a federal state, fearing its effect on its own restive Kurdish minority.

"The biggest problem about (the operation) from our point of view is that it is preventing us from solving our own problems. It is preventing us from controlling events in northern Iraq," Mr. Soyas said.

Mr. Soyas, who supports the normalisation of ties with Iraq, said the Western allied force was also "preventing our having relations with Baghdad."

Mr. Soyas implied that the issue will amount to a matter of bargaining with the West when its mandate expires at the end of the year.

"For the sake of my country's interest, I will constantly put forward conditions. I will not accept anything unconditionally," he added.

In response to a question that Washington appeared to be displeased with his posi-

tion on northern Iraq and Baghdad, Mr. Soyas asked if "his life was going to be spent in trying to please America."

Mr. Soyas recently ordered restrictions of travel from Turkey to Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq, in a move to express support for the territorial integrity of Iraq.

Kirkuk gas facility

Iraq said it inaugurated Monday a natural gas facility in the northern city of Kirkuk that will carry 100 million cubic feet of gas daily for distribution by the State Organisation for Gas Production.

INA said "Saddam's oil field project" was built despite shortages of materials caused by the U.N. embargo.

The facility was inaugurated by Oil Minister Safa Hadi Jawad in a ceremony in Kirkuk, which lies in an area rich in oil and gas.

## Armed band traced to militant settlement

KIRYAT ARBA, Occupied West Bank (AP) — A government probe of Jewish youths suspected of revenge attacks against Palestinians has traced their network to this settlement, the heart of militant opposition to the government's peace plans.

The allegations of trafficking in arms and explosives as well as hints of murder involve at least 10 men, including an army officer from an elite unit whose court-martial opened Sunday.

Seven of the suspects — dubbed "the revenge underground" by the Israeli press — live in Kiryat Arba and three have close links to the community. The case emerged just six months after resident Baruch Goldstein opened fire in the Ibrahim Mosque, Hebron, killing more than 30 Palestinians.

Settlers say the charges are an attempt by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Labour government to demonise them in the eyes of the Israeli public. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has hinted that some Jewish settlements may have to be abandoned to win peace.

That prospect threatens an irreparable split within Israel and even raises the spectre of internal violence — a shock concept in Israel's close-knit society.

"There are two nations. The nation of Mr. Peres and Mr. Rabin is alien to us," said Elyakim Haetzi, a former parliament member and one of the town's first secular residents. "This wicked government will not only fail but will also be put on trial... they have committed high treason."

Mr. Haetzi said the two deserve life in prison for considering withdrawing from the "ancient land" of Israel. Circulars signed by a group called "Sword of David" posted in Kiryat Arba sentenced Mr. Rabin to death for the policy.

Previous leaflets signed by the group claimed responsibility for the Feb. 25 massacre, plus the shooting deaths of three Palestinian workers near Hebron and of an Arab taxi driver in Jerusalem.

According to court documents, the Shin Bet secret security forces are investigating those arrested in relation to the unsolved killings. Since its founding in 1968, Kiryat Arba has been known as the breeder reactor for settlers bent on driving Arabs out of the occupied lands, whatever the cost.

The Kiryat Arba mall has a basement shooting gallery. Rabbinic pack guns. Cars dwarfed by the Israeli flags flapping above their roofs roar through Arab neighbourhoods. Yeshiva students have moved out from here across the West Bank, founding settlements or study centres in or near Palestinian towns.

At a recent protest outside its gates, settlers screamed "Nazi" at Israeli soldiers, the ultimate insult in the Jewish state. Goldstein's name is yelled as a rallying cry.

Aharon Dombe, the spokesman for the mainstream West Bank settler movement, said his life was threatened by militants after he told Israel Radio that the general atmosphere in Kiryat

Arba bred violence and condoned burning Arabs.

Another residents told an Israeli newspaper that some rabbis teach that attacking Arabs in a religious duty.

Most of the 120,000 settlers living in the West Bank, occupied since 1967, are expected to go along with whatever territorial compromise the government negotiates with the Palestinians. But some at Kiryat Arba have vowed to fight.

An estimated 15 per cent of the 7,000 residents supported Kach, the now-banned movement that advocates expelling Arabs from Israeli-controlled areas.

It is Kiryat Arba that sustains the presence of 450 Jews in Hebron, a city of 100,000 Palestinians. Hundreds of soldiers are required to protect them.

Military officials have warned that both Jewish and Palestinian extremists plan attacks at the site of the massacre. It is due to reopen by late October with new security measures.

More bloodshed in still-tense Hebron could seriously damage attempts to bring peace to the parts of the West Bank not covered by the Palestinian autonomy agreement.

The Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace accord stipulates that Israeli troops must pull out of urban centres before Palestinian elections, the next step in the peace process.

The "revenge underground" case is the biggest security sweep against Jewish settlers since 25 Jews were arrested in 1984 for involve-

ment in an underground group.

Members, also largely from Kiryat Arba, were convicted of several attacks including using grenades and rifles to kill three and wound 30 at Hebron's Islamic College.

The Shin Bet has hinted that the latest group planned similar bloodshed, especially since militants opposed to the year-old Israel-Palestine peace deal sharply increased deadly attacks on Jews.

Settlers believe the government has a weak case because four suspects were released without charges and accuse interrogators of resorting to torture to extract confessions. The government denied the accusations.

The case is extra sensitive because it involves a deputy company commander in the paratroopers, Lieutenant Oren Edri, 23, whose trial opened Sunday in a military court.

He was indicted on charges of illegal movement of arms, violation of standing orders, disclosure of classified information and conduct unbecoming an officer. He allegedly received four blocks of explosives from another officer and passed them to other suspects.

Residents are convinced that the Shabak, as the Shin Bet is known locally, has infiltrated the community in order to dismantle it.

"Everyone is afraid of the Arabs, everyone is afraid of the Shabak and everyone is afraid of their neighbours," said one resident, David Ramati.

## Cairo prepares law banning female circumcision

CAIRO (AFP) — The Egyptian government plans to submit a draft law to parliament soon banning female circumcision, Population Minister Maher Mahran said in an interview appearing Monday.

The custom, supposedly aimed at keeping women faithful to their husbands, is widespread in Egypt, despite being already outlawed in principle.

Mr. Mahran, interviewed by the semi-official daily Al-Ahram, said the government would present to parliament "a law on the protection of children, including a ban on circumcision" of girls, at the next people's assembly session opening in November.

But he said that when the law, drawn up by legal experts, doctors and sociologists, was first applied "the penalties will not be strict, due to the antiquity of these traditions, which have existed for thousands of years in some areas."

Mr. Mahran said the law would not be enough to eradicate the custom, which involves the removal of part of the external genitalia, including the clitoris.

He called for "a huge campaign to make people aware of the dangers of circumcision," and stressed that Islam "cannot allow this practice harmful to health."

According to figures published in the Egyptian press recently, 73 per cent of young girls in Cairo are circumcised and 95 per cent in rural parts of Egypt.

The Egyptian mufti, Sheikh Mohammad Sayed Tantawi, has called for a law banning circumcision, which is also practised widely elsewhere in other parts of Africa.

Meanwhile, an Egyptian lawyer has filed a claim for \$250 million in damages from CNN, accusing the U.S. television company of harming Egypt's image by screening pictures of a female circumcision.

"The film is a serious attack on the image of the Egyptian people, who gave a warm welcome to participants in the U.N. world population conference," the lawyer, Mustafa Ashub, told AFP Sunday.

In early September, while the conference was in progress, Cable News Network (CNN) showed the circumcision of a 10-year-old Egyptian girl, Naglaa Fathy Hamad. She was held down by several men while a barber cut into her genitalia with a razor.

The barber and a florist who was a friend of the family were later arrested. An Egyptian freelancer, Nivine Hamdan, who helped set up the shoot for CNN, was questioned by police and accused of "distorting Egypt's image."

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The conference was in progress, Cable News Network (CNN) showed the circumcision of a 10-year-old Egyptian girl, Naglaa Fathy Hamad. She was held down by several men while a barber cut into her genitalia with a razor.

The barber and a florist who was a friend of the family were later arrested. An Egyptian freelancer, Nivine Hamdan, who helped set up the shoot for CNN, was questioned by police and accused of "distorting Egypt's image."

A 20-year action plan adopted by the conference included a clause saying: "Violence against women should be eliminated as should female genital mutilation."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Arab League oppose U.N. resolution change

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt and the Arab League oppose Sunday what they said were attempts by Israel and the United States to "remove" U.N. resolutions dealing with the Palestinian cause and the Israeli-occupied territories. "Egypt has informed the sovereignty of Jerusalem, the resolutions relative to the sovereignty of Jerusalem, the occupation of the Syrian Golan and southern Lebanon are not to be touched," Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said. "Egypt will oppose any American or Israeli initiative to remove these resolutions" at the 49th session of the U.N.'s General Assembly which opened last Tuesday, he said. The United States and Israel have tried to obtain the removal or modification of these U.N. resolutions at other meetings of the General Assembly, qualifying them as "obsolete" or unsuited to the "new realities" in the Middle East. Arab League Deputy Secretary-General Adnan Omran also said he would oppose any moves to remove the resolutions. "This demand has no judicial foundation," he said. "The resolutions of the U.N., which have not yet been applied, constitute for the Arab negotiators, a judicial reference that will help them recover their legitimate rights," Mr. Omran said.

### Israeli army bars Likud activists from Hebron

HEBRON (AFP) — Israeli troops on Sunday prevented members of the main right-wing opposition party Likud from visiting Hebron in the occupied West Bank, military officials said. The delegation, travelling in eight buses, was stopped at a military roadblock on the edge of Hebron. The Likud activists, including several parliament members, wanted to visit the Ibrahim Mosque, which has been closed since a Jewish settler massacred more than 30 Palestinian worshippers there on 25. Deputy Uzi Landau accused the government of using the army "for political ends." General Ilan Biran, commander of the central region which includes the West Bank, appealed to party leaders on television "not to put the army at the centre of political disputes." But he stressed that decisions whether to allow Israeli demonstrations in the West Bank were taken "purely on security grounds." Gen. Biran said a special border guards unit would be responsible for security at the site, and would start training there next week. After the massacre the Israeli authorities decided to carry out work at the site to keep Jewish and Muslim worshippers apart. Gen. Biran said most of the work had been completed.

### Iran, Turkey to shut out each other's rebels

NICOSIA (R) — Senior officials from Iran and Turkey agreed on Sunday to stop opposition groups operating on each other's territory, Iranian radio said. "Turkey will not permit various groups opposing... Iran to be active in Turkey," the radio quoted Turkish Deputy Interior Minister Bekir Aksoy as saying after the meeting. The broadcast was monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation. "Opponents of Turkey's government will be prevented from engaging in activities in Iran," the radio quoted Mr. Aksoy's Iranian counterpart Ali Reza Tabesh as saying. Turkey is fighting Kurdish separatist guerrillas of the Kurdish Labour Party in a 10-year war which has claimed at least 12,900 lives. Relations between Turkey and Iran have improved since Iran began helping Turkey against the Kurdish rebels in 1993. Iran, which has its own Kurdish minority, also wants Turkey to check the activities on its soil of the Mojahadeen-e-Khalq, an Iranian opposition group which keeps an army equipped with tanks in Iraq. Security consultations between the two countries stem from an accord signed in 1992.

### Australia to send observers to Gaza, Jericho

CAIRO (AFP) — Australia has agreed to join an international observer force for the autonomous Gaza Strip and Jericho, Palestinian Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said here Sunday. Speaking after a week-long visit to Australia, Dr. Shaath said the decision followed an official Palestinian request. It would still have to be endorsed by the Australian parliament. Dr. Shaath said Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans had accepted an invitation to visit the Palestinian self-rule areas at the beginning of next year. He discussed opportunities for Australian investment in Gaza and the Jericho enclave in the West Bank, and "increasing aid" from Canberra for the self-rule areas. Under the Cairo accord which launched self-rule on May 4, a temporary international presence consisting of 400 observers from donor countries will be deployed for a six-month period, which may be renewed, in Gaza and Jericho. Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreed to ask Canada, Finland, Australia, Norway and two as yet unspecified European Union countries to finance the force.

### Two tourists killed in jet ski crash

ANKARA (AP) — Two tourists were killed Friday in a high speed jet ski crash at the southern seaside resort town of Marmaris, a British embassy official said Sunday. Jane Baker, age 21, from Ireland and Peter Everett, 22, from England were killed while racing on jet skis off a crowded beach near the town centre, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Two other English tourists, Paul Stephen Grundy, 28, and Dianne Thornton, 24, were injured in the accident. A Turkish court on Sunday arrested Mr. Grundy, a Manchester resident, on charges of causing the accident and sent him to a jail on the Aegean coastal city of Mugla. The Antolia news agency reported. No charges were brought against Ms. Thornton who was released from the hospital on Sunday, it added.

**JORDAN TELEVISION**  
Tel: 77311-19

**PROGRAMME TWO**  
17:30 Alice Au Pays Des Merveilles  
18:30 News in French  
18:45 Grand Gala  
19:00 News in Hebrew  
19:30 Innovation  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Top Cops  
21:00 News in English  
22:20 Come In Spinner

**PRAYER TIMES**  
04:05 Fajr  
05:22 (Sunrise) Dhuhr  
12:27 Asr  
14:53 Maghreb  
17:33 Isha

**CHURCHES**  
St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Swedish Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771251  
Armenian International Church Tel. 652526  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624528  
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675601  
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

**WEATHER**  
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
Temperature will drop further with clouds appearing at different altitudes. There will also be a chance of scattered showers with winds westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.  
Min./Max. temp.  
Amman 22 / 33  
Aqaba 22 / 33  
Deserts 16 / 31  
Jordan Valley 23 / 34  
Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 29, Aqaba 33, Humidity readings: Amman 36 per cent, Aqaba 42 per cent.

**JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR**

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

**NIGHT DUTY**  
AMMAN: Dr. Abbas Al Hakim 885446  
Dr. Shabaneh Al Izzi 737774  
Dr. Shrawi Abu Zayed 737962  
Dr. Mohamad Al Nahawi 819213  
First pharmacy 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy 637055  
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672  
Al Salan pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 649945  
Shamsi pharmacy 637660  
Najih pharmacy 623672  
Alquds pharmacy 847632  
IBRD: Dr. Ali Al Shoaibi 246140  
Alquds pharmacy (-)  
ZARQA: Dr. Ghassan Faqih 906130  
Khalil pharmacy 985417

**EMERGENCIES**  
Food Control Centre 637111  
Civil Defence Department 661111

**HOSPITALS**  
AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/22

**ARRIVALS**  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 64281/6  
Aklich Maternity, J. Amn 64241/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362  
Mafes, J. Amn 636140  
Palestine, Shamsi 664171/4  
Shamsi Hospital 669131  
University Hospital 843845  
ZARQA: Al-Mushter Hospital 66722/9  
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/57  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Mubajra 77101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah 77511/26  
Army, Marka 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital 666100  
Amal Hospital 674155  
ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital  
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)903560  
Al-Hikmah Modern Hospital (09)909732  
IBRD: Prince Basmal Hospital (02)725555  
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)727272  
Ibn Al-Nafes Hospital (02)747100  
Pharasa Haya Hospital (03)314111

**FOR THE TRAVELLER**  
**QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**  
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

**ARRIVALS**  
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
03:10 Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
07:00 Doha (RJ)  
07:30 Dhahran (RJ)  
07:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
08:15 Aqaba (RJ)  
08:35 Beirut, Dubai (RJ)  
09:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
16:35 London (RJ)  
16:50 Cairo (RJ)  
16:55 Aden (RJ)  
17:40 Chicago, Amsterdam (RJ)  
Other Flights (Terminal 2)  
03:20 Vienna (OS)  
06:35 Cairo (MS)  
13:00 Riyadh (SV)  
17:00 Rome (AZ)  
18:20 Paris, Beirut (AF)

**DEPARTURES**  
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
07:00 Aqaba (RJ)  
08:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
10:45 Aqaba, Vienna, Brussels (RJ)  
11:00 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)  
11:15 Montreal, Toronto (RJ)  
11:50 Geneva, Paris (RJ)  
12:05 Cairo (RJ)  
12:55 London (RJ)  
13:30 Madrid (RJ)  
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
20:00 London (RJ)  
20:30 Jeddah (RJ)  
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
21:50 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)  
Other Flights (Terminal 2)  
08:20 Larnaca, Rome (AZ)  
09:30 Vienna (MS)  
12:50 Khartoum (SD)  
14:00 Riyadh (SV)  
14:30 Damascus (AZ)  
15:30 Kiev (GU)  
19:30 Amsterdam (RJ)  
08:30 Bucharest (RJ)

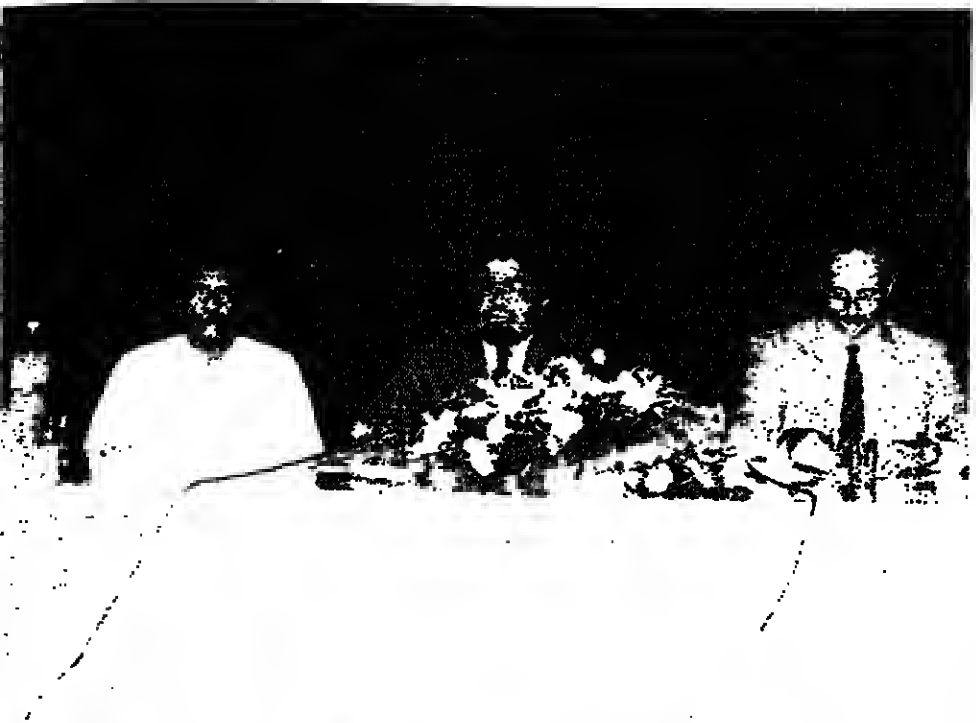
**MARKET PRICES**  
Upper/lower price in lbs per 100  
Banana 700/200  
Banana (Mukammal) 600  
Cabbage 110/50  
Carrot 200/80  
Cauliflower 240/120  
Cucumbers (large) 120/60  
Cucumbers (small) 200/100  
Eggplant 200/100  
Garlic 500/200  
Grape 320/160  
Grapes (Hirvani) 600/300  
Lemon 200/100  
Marrow (large) 140/70  
Marrow (small) 240/120  
Mushroom 180/90  
Onion (dry) 320/160  
Onion (green) 320/160  
Pepper (hot) 200/100  
Pepper (sweet) 300/150  
Potato 300/150  
Pomegranate 320/160  
Spinach 300/150  
Tomato 120/60  
String bean 200/100  
Watermelon 200/100

**HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN**

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday  
Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday  
Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday  
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

**DEPARTURES**  
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
07:00 Aqaba (RJ)  
08:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
10:45 Aqaba, Vienna, Brussels (RJ)  
11:00 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)  
11:15 Montreal, Toronto (RJ)  
11:50 Geneva, Paris (RJ)  
12:05 Cairo (RJ)  
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08:20 Larnaca, Rome (AZ)  
09:30 Vienna (MS)  
12:50 Khartoum (SD)  
14:00 Riyadh (SV)  
14:30 Damascus (AZ)  
15:30 Kiev (GU)  
19:30 Amsterdam (RJ)  
08:30 Bucharest (RJ)





Minister of Education Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh presides over a meeting of school directors in the Nuzha district of Amman Monday (Petra photo)

## Government to provide JD 10-20m loan to teachers housing fund

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Education Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh Monday announced that the government will loan between JD 10-20 million to the teachers housing fund enabling the fund to finance their own housing units.

Speaking at a meeting attended by directors of schools in the Greater Amman region, Mr. Rawabdeh

said that each teacher would be able to borrow up to JD 12,000 for housing, adding that the fund's lending regulations will be relaxed, so that the teachers will be able to obtain interest-free loans for their respective projects.

There is a need for the government to re-examine the current professional allowance given to teachers, said the minister.

At present, the teachers are offered a 10 per cent professional allowance, but a ministry committee is studying ways to increase the allowance and improve the living conditions of the teachers in Jordan, he said.

Mr. Rawabdeh added that the professional allowance should be raised to a level comparable to that of other professions.

## Seminar seeks to bridge gap between media, human rights

By Khattab Salman  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A workshop on media and human rights included Monday in Amman with the participation of media representatives, academics and union chairmen in an effort to bridge the gap between the mass media and human rights movements.

The one-day workshop, which was organised by Amnesty International, Jordan through its information and public relations committee, included three sessions.

The morning session discussed a working paper submitted by Chairman of the Jordan Bar Association Kamal Nasser on "Jordanian legislations concerning media and human rights". Dr. Nasser said in his paper that the legislator in Jordan went alongside the International Declaration of Human Rights which guaranteed freedom of expression to all including the pursuit of information and publishing of it through any chosen medium.

"But the third article of the declaration connected these rights with special duties and responsibilities of every country. These special features are of national security, social norms and general

order maintenance purposes," he said.

He added that these special features were "too loose," and national legislations managed to violate the freedom of expression using the pretext of national security.

"The Jordanian legislator through the Constitution and the Press and Publications Law of 1993 is similar in the rights and duties guaranteed to all, but the law introduced exceptions for the freedom of expression. These exceptions are related to religious prejudice (Article 278), hindering justice (Article 224), embargoed material of interrogation statements (Article 225), and slander and defamation related issues (Article 188)" he said.

Dr. Nasser said Jordanian legislation contains the same shortcomings of the international declaration of Human Rights when it comes to the "loose control methods" that leave some grey areas in the law to be misused.

The evening sessions discussed the two themes of "journalism and human rights" presented by Tawfiq Abu Baker and "television and radio and human rights" presented by Muhammad Muhtashib.

Mr. Muhtashib, of Yarmouk University, said that radio and television in the Arab

World and the Third World are some kind of a model monopoly supervised by direct government intervention.

"Although Jordan witnessed a democratic process initiated five years ago, freedom of speech through government controlled radio and television for all political spectra is still lagging behind," he commented.

Mr. Muhtashib pointed out that as we are preparing to enter the 21st century, we should transform our mass media stations to real pulpits and citadels encompassing all political orientations and discussing any domestic, regional and international issues free of censorship.

He called in his recommendations for raising the number of radio stations, more human rights violation monitoring in Jordan, holding seminars of related issues, more research work on the topic of human rights and the mass media, and enabling all political currents to practice their freedom of speech by easing government control over radio and television.

The workshop was opened by Nidal Mansour of Amnesty/Jordan, Senator Layla Sharaf and Tawfiq Abu Baker, secretary general of Amnesty/Jordan.

## APU chief says government differences should not affect work of parliaments

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) Secretary General Mohammad Khalifeh Monday said in Amman that political differences among Arab governments should not affect the work of Arab parliaments.

Speaking at a meeting with the Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Taher Masri, Mr. Khalifeh said Arab parliaments, which are APU members, represent Arab peoples and not governments, and should be insulated from inter-governmental differences and be able to pool efforts to bolster relations among all the parliaments in the Arab World.

In presenting an outline of the APU's activities and tasks, Mr. Khalifeh said efforts are under way to modernise and upgrade the APU's general secretariat financially and administratively.

Mr. Khalifeh, who is also speaker of the Sudanese national assembly, urged the convening of an APU meeting as soon as possible. The union has not met since before the Gulf crisis.

In response, Mr. Masri said Jordan's Parliament was willing to assist in any way to stimulate the APU's activities.



Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi (second right) Monday reviews issues of mutual concern with visiting Arab Parliamentary Union Secretary General Mohammad Khalifeh of Sudan (second left) (Petra photo)

Mr. Khalifeh, who is currently on tour of the Arab World to prepare for an APU meeting probably in Morocco, met earlier with Speaker

of the Senate Ahmad Lawzi and discussed inter-Arab parliamentary affairs.

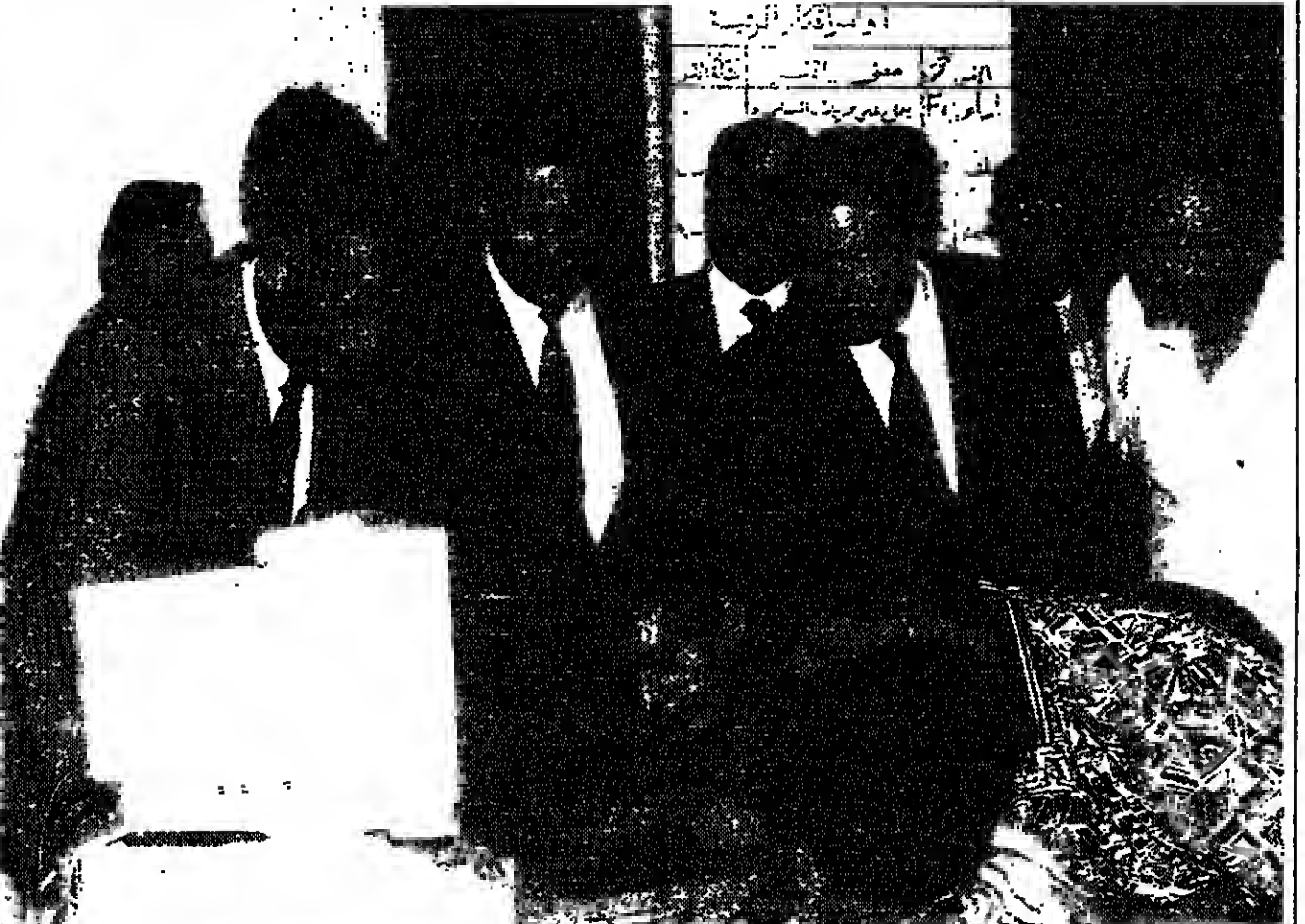
Mr. Lawzi told Mr. Khalifeh that through the APU

Arab parliaments can help end differences among Arab governments and reestablish solidarity among their states. Mr. Khalifeh, who came

here from Syria, said his tour aimed at promoting APU role in stimulating collective Arab action on the political front.

### GETTING ON-LINE:

U.S. Ambassador Wesley Egan (second right), UNRWA Affairs Director in Jordan Ele Saaf (left) and UNRWA Education Director Naceur Bonchouchi (centre) look on as students in Baqaa camp try out a new computer at the 23-classroom school opened at the camp Monday by Mr. Egan. The building also consists of four administrative rooms, a library, a computer centre, multi-purpose room, laboratory and other facilities. The school operates on a double shift basis, serving some 2,250 pupils with 60 teachers. The U.S. government financed the construction and equipped the school at a cost of \$769,000. UNRWA runs 201 schools in Jordan, and provides 10 years of schooling to more than 152,000 refugee children, with a teaching staff of 4,400.



## Research centre protests closure of its offices

By Ian Atalla  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — After the Amman Governorate ordered the closure of Al Urdun Al Jadid (New Jordan) Research Centre briefly last week for not having a licence by the Department of Press and Publications (DPP), the centre issued a statement protesting the action.

The private foundation, which conducts research and seminars on Jordan's politics, called the closure an extreme action, taken without any warning, which caused the centre "both financial and intangible damages, and insult."

The closure, imposed last Monday and Tuesday, was lifted on Wednesday and Al Urdun Al Jadid finally obtained the licence, required under the 1993 Press and Publications laws, from the DPP.

The press statement was signed by Centre Director Hani Hourani.

A governorate official sharply objected to the allegations.

"Mr. Hourani was given more than ample chance to fulfill all his legal requirements under the press laws, and has no right to make this complaint," said Ahmad Shatnawy, head of the governorate's Political and Legal Affairs Department.

The press statement alleged the closure was part

of a series of "dubious goings-on" over the last two months, resulting from "the belief of some that the centre's activities, and perhaps the activities of numerous other social organisations, should be confined according to a ceiling drawn by official circles," and be "subject to their surveillance."

The statement did not give specifics on the alleged clampdown. But Mr. Hourani told the Jordan Times he viewed the conditions of the new licence as "unnecessarily restrictive and impractical."

The licence stipulates that any publication or seminar dissertation to be used by Al Urdun Al Jadid must be submitted to the Department of Press and Publications for approval no less than two weeks before it is to be published or presented.

Officials at the DPP were not immediately available for comment.

Mr. Shatnawy stated emphatically that the governorate, for its part, had never aimed to hamper the centre.

"We have no wish to punish Mr. Hourani, but the law is the law, and we are required to execute it without prejudice," he said. Under the press laws, it is clearly illegal for a centre engaging in political activities to be operational on no more than a commercial licence from the Ministry of Industry and Trade,

as had been the case with Al Urdun Al Jadid, and the governorate was legally required to take action, he explained.

Mr. Hourani insisted that the closure "was simply not our fault."

"We had submitted an application for the licence on Aug. 18," he said, but the department delayed beyond a legally allotted period of one month before issuing its verdict.

The delay then "provided the governor with the justification to order the closing," although the centre had previously informed him about its situation with the department, according to the press statement.

Mr. Shatnawy denied that the governorate had sought a hasty shutdown of the centre, pointing out that instead of closing it permanently last week, it granted a two-week grace period to obtain the licence.

He added that the governorate had been more than lenient on one previous occasion, when Al Urdun Al Jadid failed to officially register an Aug. 17 seminar at the Forte Grand Hotel on election plans for Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

The failure to register the seminar with the governorate was a clear violation of existing laws on public

gatherings, he said, but the governorate decided to "let the incident go."

Since Al Urdun Al Jadid began functioning in January 1993, it has published at least 10 research studies and held seven seminars. Its work has focused primarily on Jordan's election processes and political parties.

Its executive and "scientific" committees include Taher Masri, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Musa Keilani, chief editor of Al-Dustour, and several other prominent government and academic figures.

As to why the centre never submitted an application for the new licence until over a year after the issuance of the press laws, the press statement maintained that delays and entanglements at the DPP had nixed repeated requests to apply for the licence which had been made ever since the new laws came out in May last year.

On several occasions, Mr. Hourani said, department employees told him flatly that the new licence was "simply not immediately necessary."

Mr. Shatnawy said Mr. Hourani could not so easily cite official channels as being the cause of the delay.

"We had warned Mr. Hourani a full three months ago that he should

put his papers in order, and sent him to the Department of Press and Publications," he said.

Mr. Shatnawy said the governorate also developed concerns about Al Urdun Al Jadid's activities after public protests over a June workshop held by the centre, for Jordanian activists.

Several journalists and party leaders strongly objected that the conference was held in cooperation with Germany's Konrad Adenauer Foundation, and that a number of German politicians were brought in to participate.

Objectors felt that the German presence was an unwarranted intrusion of foreign interest groups into sensitive political affairs of the Kingdom.

The centre's press statement referred to those protests as "wrongful attacks by some groups and individuals" which "gave concern circles the confidence that they are capable of isolating our centre and severely limiting its activities."

Mr. Shatnawy said the governorate simply wished to avoid "further complaints from political parties" about the issue, and was for its own part genuinely concerned about such foreign involvements.

"After these complaints," he said, "we became more careful to ensure that the centre's standing is legally sound."

## Experts to examine current trends in electoral systems

AMMAN (J.T.) — Political science and election administration experts will come together for a two-day conference, Sept. 28-29, to examine various aspects of electoral experience.

The conference, titled "Current Trends in Electoral Systems," has been co-organised by the New Jordan Research Centre and the National Democratic Institute.

More than 40 participants from Jordan, Egypt, France, South Africa, Tunisia and the U.K. will address the Jordanian electoral experience with regard to other cases in the Arab World and other regions.

Eight papers will be presented during the conference; each one will be discussed in turn by Jordanian and international experts, academics and political figures.

On Wednesday, the conference will raise issues concerning democracy, elections and the role of political parties, and then move on to electoral trends within the Arab World and worldwide.

The last session of the day will look at the function of election authorities.

The second day will host papers considering the role of the mass media in the electoral process and issues of "Public Confidence, Legitimacy and Informed Participation."

The conference will culminate with two sessions regarding the electoral development in Jordan, specifically one-person, one-vote and voter registration procedures, and finally the quota system and electoral boundaries.

The conference will be held at the Jerusalem International Hotel, Amman, and the opening event will be conducted by Taher Masri, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament.

## Top GIA leader killed in Algeria

(Continued from page 1)

politics and recently recorded a song mocking the fundamentalist extremists.

In 1988, he was wounded in the stomach by several bullets fired by police during rioting in the town of Kabylie.

But he miraculously survived his injuries, which only served to boost his tough image.

Matouh, in his last record, had paid tribute to the reporters and intellectuals murdered by Muslim militants.

One of his songs was entitled "Kenza," the name of daughter of Tahar Djaout, the first journalist murdered on May 26, 1993.

A fervent backer of the Berber language, Mr. Matouh in his record also berated the Arabic language as "uninteresting" and criticised Algeria's educational

system, which he said produced "monsters."

Mr. Matouh has also taken part in numerous demonstrations organised by the MCB, which has been fighting for official recognition of the Berber language since 1980.

The MCB has organised a boycott of the new school year since Sept. 10 and has called for strikes and demonstrations in October.

### PLAY

★ Play in Arabic entitled "The Body Test/the Existence" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

### FILMS

★ French film entitled "L'Argent" at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman at 7:30 p.m.

★ Spanish film entitled "Atame" at the Instituto Cervantes (the Spanish Cultural Centre) at 6:00 p.m. (Tel 610858)

### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### LECTURE

★ Lecture in Arabic entitled "The Palestinian Democracy from the Forest of Guns to the Forest of Interests" at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 6:30 p.m.

#### NEWS

★ ABC News Highlights and MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Center at 5:00 p.m.

#### EXHIBITIONS

★ Exhibition of paintings by Dia Azzawi at Ah'ad Art Gallery (Tel. 814257).

★ Exhibition of paintings entitled "Donation" by Laila Bustami at the Royal Cultural Centre.



## Plague cases spread in India

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Suspected plague cases multiplied across western India Monday as officials redoubled efforts to track down "human bomb" carriers of the disease and foreign nations moved to examine Indian travellers.

A 28-year-old man who had fled the infected city of Surat and was being treated for the plague died in a hospital in Dhule district, 200 kilometres east of Surat, the Press Trust of India said.

One of several hundred patients being treated for plague symptoms died in a hospital in Rajkot, 250 kilometres west of Surat, the news agency said. Nineteen patients with plague symptoms were admitted to hospital in Bombay, 270 kilometres south of Surat.

Their condition is somewhat stable but not very good, an official at Bombay's Kasturba Hospital said. "We are prepared to treat more patients if they come for admission and we are expecting that too."

Six patients with plague symptoms were reported to be in isolation in Ahmedabad, 200 kilometres north of Surat.

The Health Minister of Rajasthan state, north of the plague's centre in Gujarat state, told United News of

India that two people among the more than 300,000 who fled Surat had tested positive for plague in two towns in his state.

Plague worries spread outside of India's borders. The United Arab Emirates decided to require all passengers from India to submit to medical checkups upon entering the Gulf state, according to local newspapers.

Indian newspapers reported that U.S. health officials would monitor airports to pinpoint any plague cases among passengers coming from infected areas of India.

Authorities in the capital, New Delhi, and Surat, a centre for diamonds and artificial silk, said two outbreaks of plague — one bubonic, the other pneumonic — were under control and could be cured by antibiotics if victims sought help quickly.

The bubonic type, spread by fleas that bite infected rodents, struck more than 90 people in Maharashtra state east of Bombay last week. It was brought under control with insecticide spraying and antibiotics for victims.

But the pneumonic variety then hit Surat, killing 46 people by official count over the past week — up from 44 early Monday morning — and dozens more by unofficial

estimates. Authorities worry that some of the hundreds of thousands of people who escaped from Surat were infected with pneumonic plague, which can destroy a victim's lungs if not treated and is spread between humans through contaminated sputum.

More than 100 plague patients, ignoring doctors' orders, fled from quarantine in Surat civil hospital over the weekend without having been cured.

Paramilitary forces were sent to track down the victims — whom health officials in Surat called "human bombs" — and four were hauled back to the hospital late Sunday.

State and municipal governments across the country took emergency steps to contain the spread of the disease. Rajasthan set up checkpoints at entry points into the state and trucks were inspected for rodents. The state also barred entry of all food from Gujarat for a week.

Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh states both moved to screen all people coming from Gujarat state by train or bus.

Several districts far from Surat closed schools, cinemas and public meeting places for a week.

Each hospital in New Delhi was told to set up an isolation ward and around-the-clock control rooms to take in potential victims. A campaign to clean up garbage was promised.

Delhi's government also decided to set up plague control rooms at airports, railway stations and interstate bus terminals.

South Korea and Hong Kong have begun monitoring arrivals from India to prevent the deadly pneumonic plague outbreak from entering their territories.

But most Asian countries have adopted a wait and see policy in reaction to the plague which has hit the western Indian city of Surat.

Indian officials said Sunday that the outbreak, which has left up to 75 people dead, is under control.

South Korean airports and other gateways have been ordered to tighten medical checks for Indians and other foreign travellers coming from areas affected by the disease, health officials in Seoul said.

Hong Kong Health Department decided after an emergency meeting to put a watch on travellers from India, and also warned people against visiting the affected regions.



Women set fire to heaps of uncleaned garbage. Doctors say the plague is caused by rats who feast on city waste (AFP photo)

## Senior Pakistani police officer killed

KARACHI (AFP) — A senior police officer and his driver were gunned down by three unidentified assailants here Monday, police said.

District Superintendent Imdad Ali Khan was shot and injured shortly after leaving his home in the city's troubled central district. His driver was killed on the spot and Khan died on his way to hospital, police said.

Attacks on police officers and police stations have been on the rise this year. Eight

policemen and paramilitary troops, including a senior police officer and a Rangers captain were killed in an ambush in March and another senior police officer and five of his men were killed in an ambush in June.

Several police stations have been attacked at least three times during the same period. The army meanwhile launched another arms recovery campaign in the city's eastern district. Troops cordoned off

Shah Faisal Colony in an operation similar to the one conducted last week in the Lines area.

Officials said 48 handguns and rifles had already been recovered during Monday's operation and their owners were being checked for licenses. At least 20 people have been taken in for questioning, officials added.

More than 300 unlicensed weapons were recovered in last week's operation and six people were arrested.

## Giscard d'Estaing ready to stand in elections

PARIS (AFP) — Former French president, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, said Sunday he could stand in France's May 1995 presidential elections if no other candidates from his party comes forward.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing is president of the liberal Union for French Democracy (UDF), one of the two key parties in the French government, the other being the neo-Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR).

"A major party with no candidate at a presidential election has no raison d'être," said Mr. Giscard d'Estaing in interviews with French radio and the Le Monde newspaper.

"Every major party has a duty to put forward a candidate," he added.

"At the present time the RPR has put forward two candidates," said the former French president, alluding to French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur and RPR leader Jacques Chirac.

Neither Mr. Chirac nor Mr. Balladur have so far officially announced their candidature.

At the RPR party conference, currently being held in Colmar, eastern France, Mr. Balladur and Mr. Chirac have made veiled criticisms of each other, without openly admitting they are in competition.

## Simpson jury to be picked under TV ban

LOS ANGELES (R) — O.J. Simpson goes on trial in what has been billed as the murder case of the century, but millions captivated by the courtroom drama may be disappointed — the next episode won't be televised.

By court order, the cameras as they captured the football superstar's every grimace during three months of pre-trial hearings have been unplugged for jury selection, the official opening of the sensational double-murder trial.

Under a radio and TV blackout, prosecutors and defence attorneys, who have been battling it out in the court of public opinion, will face off in a downtown courtroom to begin picking the 12 jurors who will decide Simpson's fate.

Even so, reporters, photographers and camera crews from around the world have converged on the criminal courts building, where towering broadcast platforms, miles of cable and dozens of satellite dishes have sprung

up almost overnight. On the eve of trial, Simpson — confined to a 6-by-9-foot (2-by-3-metre) jail cell — was putting his trust in prayer, said former football star Rosey Grier.

"He's praying for a friend of his that has cancer," Rev. Grier, now an ordained minister, told reporters after a Sunday jailhouse visit. "If you reach out and touch someone else's life, that's investing in your own life."

Prosecution and defence teams each huddled to plot strategy for what is expected to be the most tedious but critical phase of the trial proceedings.

But after months of anonymous leaks and media frenzy surrounding the hall of fame running back, legal experts wonder whether it is still possible to find an impartial jury to hear the case.

Simpson — a football hero turned actor and advertising pitchman — is charged with the savage June 12 slayings of his beautiful ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson, 35, and aspiring model Ronald Gold-

man, 25, who were found lying in a pool of blood outside her Brentwood townhouse.

He has declared himself "absolutely 100 per cent guilty."

Hoping to catch the prosecution off guard, Simpson's all-star defence team is rushing the case to trial scarcely 100 days after charges were filed.

Overshadowing the start of jury selection is a judge's threat to ban all television coverage of the trial because of what he called false and prejudicial news reports.

In an effort to shield prospective jurors from the media glare, Superior Court Judge Lance Ito has already barred cameras and microphones from the courtroom while the panel is being picked — a process expected to take up to a month.

The celebrity murder case, complete with lurid tales of high living, wife beating and grisly slayings, has unleashed an unprecedented media blitz.

## Brazil's Lula to take campaign to streets

SAO PAULO (R) — Struggling to keep his election bid alive, Presidential candidate Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva has called supporters to take the campaign to the streets in the last week before voters go to the polls.

"I want to ask you to wear your T-shirts, to wear our stickers and carry our flags every day this week," Mr. Lula told over 100,000 supporters at a campaign rally Sunday in Sao Paulo.

"It will be our way of showing how our grit can beat their money," he said.

Mr. Lula is trailing in voter opinion polls and needs a good showing in the Oct. 3 poll to force a November runoff against front-runner Fernando Henrique Cardoso.

Mr. Lula's aides have planned large campaign rallies in major cities around the country.

"If we can force a second round, the election will start all over again from zero," said Lula's spokesman Ricardo Kotscho. "That's why we

want to take the campaign to the streets."

A former labour leader and lathe operator, Mr. Lula has promised to redistribute the wealth in a country with one of Latin America's biggest gaps between rich and poor.

"To run this country one doesn't need a doctorate in economics, one needs a degree in sensitivity," Mr. Lula told the crowd. "That is why what this country needs is not a sociologist, it needs a lathe operator."

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## Relief efforts in full swing as Papua New Guinea volcanoes calm

PORT MORESBY (R) — Australian and U.S. Air Force planes helped ferry food, shelter and medical supplies to volcano victims in Papua New Guinea Monday as the week-long eruptions continued to subside.

Two Australian cargo planes flew up to eight loads into the volcano-ravaged east of New Britain Island and three U.S. Air Force planes are flying from Okinawa in Japan to join the emergency operations, code-named Operation Unity.

International and local donations are helping support disaster relief efforts for the volcano-hit town of Rabaul. Workers hurried to rebuild the grass airstrip at Tokua, 30 kilometres from Rabaul.

Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan, who inspected the damage by helicopter, said he was appalled at the havoc caused by the eruptions, which began Monday last week and continued through-

out the week. "It will be quite some time before any real reconstruction and restoration program can take hold," Sir Julius told reporters.

"For quite a number of people it will be their whole lives lost. But we will rise from the asphalt to rebuild a township close to that area or thereabouts in the not too distant future."

More than 30,000 people were evacuated from Rabaul, the main trading port for the New Guinea islands, and thousands of others in nearby villages were forced to flee as clouds of volcanic dust spread.

For the past week the two volcanoes, situated on either side of Rabaul Harbour, have billowed huge clouds of volcanic ash that have settled on the town more than a metre deep in some places.

The Rabaul Chamber of Commerce estimates 70 per cent of buildings have been damaged, some totally flat-

tened under the weight of the ash. The property repair bill is expected to exceed 100 million kina (\$91 million).

Vehicles, aircraft and other equipment in the town have also been ruined by the ash and gangs of looters have stolen merchandise from shops and vandalised property.

Government spokesman Ian Boden told Reuters that on Tuesday Rabaul's residents and property owners would be allowed back into the devastated town, which is blocked off by army and police.

"It's recognised people who have a legitimate reason to go into Rabaul should be encouraged so they can clear the ash off their buildings and maybe prevent them caving in," Mr. Boden said.

He said supplies of food and clean water were starting to reach the evacuees, many of whom are living in makeshift care centres in nearby villages.

## Hong Kong views on 1997 distinctly mixed

HONG KONG (R) — Ten years to the day since China and Britain agreed the terms for Hong Kong's 1997 handover, opinion polls show many local people have little faith its promises will be kept.

The anniversary of the signing in 1984 of the Sino-British joint declaration passed in the colony without fanfare.

And a poll commissioned by the Sing Tao newspaper group revealed a divided view of China's promise to maintain Hong Kong's free-wheeling way of life for 50 years after the handover.

Of the 540 people surveyed for the poll by the University of Hong Kong, almost 35 per cent said they did not believe China would respect the pledge, 32 per cent said they did and 33.1 per cent said they did not know.

As for the war of words between China and Britain over Hong Kong which has brought relations to their chilliest levels in a decade, the response in Hong Kong is equal irritation with both sides.

Asked to evaluate on a scale of one to 100 the performance of the two governments over the past 10 years, China scored 49.9 and Britain 49.

"All these feelings indicate that people will do not have a very concrete idea of what will happen to Hong Kong," the survey's coordinator Robert Chung told the Sing

Tao's English language paper, the Hong Kong Standard. Almost 62 per cent of those surveyed said they regarded themselves as "Hong Kongers" rather than Chinese citizens and only 23 per cent said they would describe themselves as Chinese.

"The incoming sovereign power will have to do something to gain the confidence of Hong Kong people before 1997," said Mr. Chung.

China's official Xinhua News Agency put a different spin on the matter. The poll "reflected the increasing confidence of the local people in the Chinese side and the decreasing faith in British," it said.

A long-term study into the transition, started in 1989 by local academics, concluded that satisfaction with the Chinese government remains well below half the level of satisfaction enjoyed by the Hong Kong government, coordinator Michael De Golyer said.

The long and bitter Sino-British dispute has "affected the trust of the Hong Kong people towards the PRC (People's Republic of China) government and this bodes ill for the future," the study said in a report dated Sept. 15.

Relations soured over Governor Chris Patten's efforts to introduce greater democracy before the handover. His electoral reforms were passed in July in the face of Chinese fury.

Work on ensuring a smooth transition has virtually halted. The row is holding up the funding of a new airport and delaying a container port.

Optimism in Hong Kong in the 1980s was fuelled by China's steady opening up and the advance of Deng Xiaoping's economic reforms. But thousands more people rushed to emigrate after the bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing in 1989.

Government figures show that 66,000 emigrated in the peak year of 1992 and 53,000 in 1993. The estimate for the whole of this year is 60,000.

Governor Patten urged China Monday to abandon megaphone diplomacy and work harder with Britain on preparing Hong Kong's historic July 1997 change of sovereignty.

Speaking 10 years to the day since Britain and China initiated the treaty that sealed Hong Kong's fate, Mr. Patten said China as well as Hong Kong would suffer if a backlog of preparatory work is not cleared up quickly.

"I think it would be very sensible megaphones were put away for the next three years and we got on with the quiet, patient and constructive work of helping to ensure that the (post-1997) government has as good an inheritance as possible," he told reporters.

Ways to improve the relationship will figure high on the agenda when British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, who visited Hong Kong two weeks ago, sees Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen in New York last week.

Mr. Patten added that he would be "setting out some of our thoughts" on how to improve the transition process when he makes his annual policy address to the Legislative Council on Oct. 5.

Last week, China's top official in Hong Kong, Zhou Nan, implicitly blamed Mr. Patten for souring Sino-British relations, saying that in the first years after the September 1984 signing of the Sino-British Joint Declaration, China and Britain had been able to consult each other on transition matters.

Mr. Zhou, a career diplomat who heads the Hong Kong branch of the Xinhua News Agency, said China's 90-year-old senior leader Deng Xiaoping was correct in predicting there would be "trouble" during the run-up to 1997.

Mr. Patten, however, rejected claims that Britain was responsible for upsetting Hong Kong's future.

"If you look at what Hong Kong has achieved in the last 10 years," he said, "how can you believe some of the pretty strange criticisms that are made about our intentions for the future?"

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## Japanese reach out to Koreans with musical

SEOUL (AP) — College student Kim Song-Ok would see Jesus Christ Superstar and was stunned to discover the musical was in Japanese. To his surprise, he enjoyed it. Given the bitterness and distrust that dates back to Japanese occupation of Korea, a Japanese musical on South Korean soil ordinarily would be unthinkable.

Kim said he simply never occurred to him when he bought his ticket. "There's a prejudice against Japanese things... but once I saw the production, I realized it was entertaining," said Kim, 25. This first performance of a Japanese musical in South Korea since that 1945 colonial era stems from the two governments' attempts to heal the past by gradually opening Korea to Japanese culture. Taking no chances, authorities stationed dozens of police outside the Seoul National Theatre in case of protests. Last month, valuable Japanese art works on display at a Seoul museum were destroyed by protesters demanding that Japan compensate victims of World War II atrocities. But the mainline premiere of Jesus Christ Superstar attracted no demonstrations, and the audience, mostly Koreans in their 20s who paid 5,000 to 40,000 won (\$6.25 to \$50) for tickets, clapped and cheered the performers. South Korea officially bans Japanese movies, songs, videos and television programming, permitting only Japanese comic books and educational fare for children. Contraband versions circulate widely, and headline foes of Japan fear the cultural influx will overwhelm South Korea if the restrictions are lifted entirely.

The Japanese government has been pushing for a similar deal with the United States, where it has been accused of mistreating Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Mr. Kim, who is a member of the Seoul National Theatre's choir, said he was surprised to find the musical was in Japanese. "I was expecting it to be in Korean," he said.

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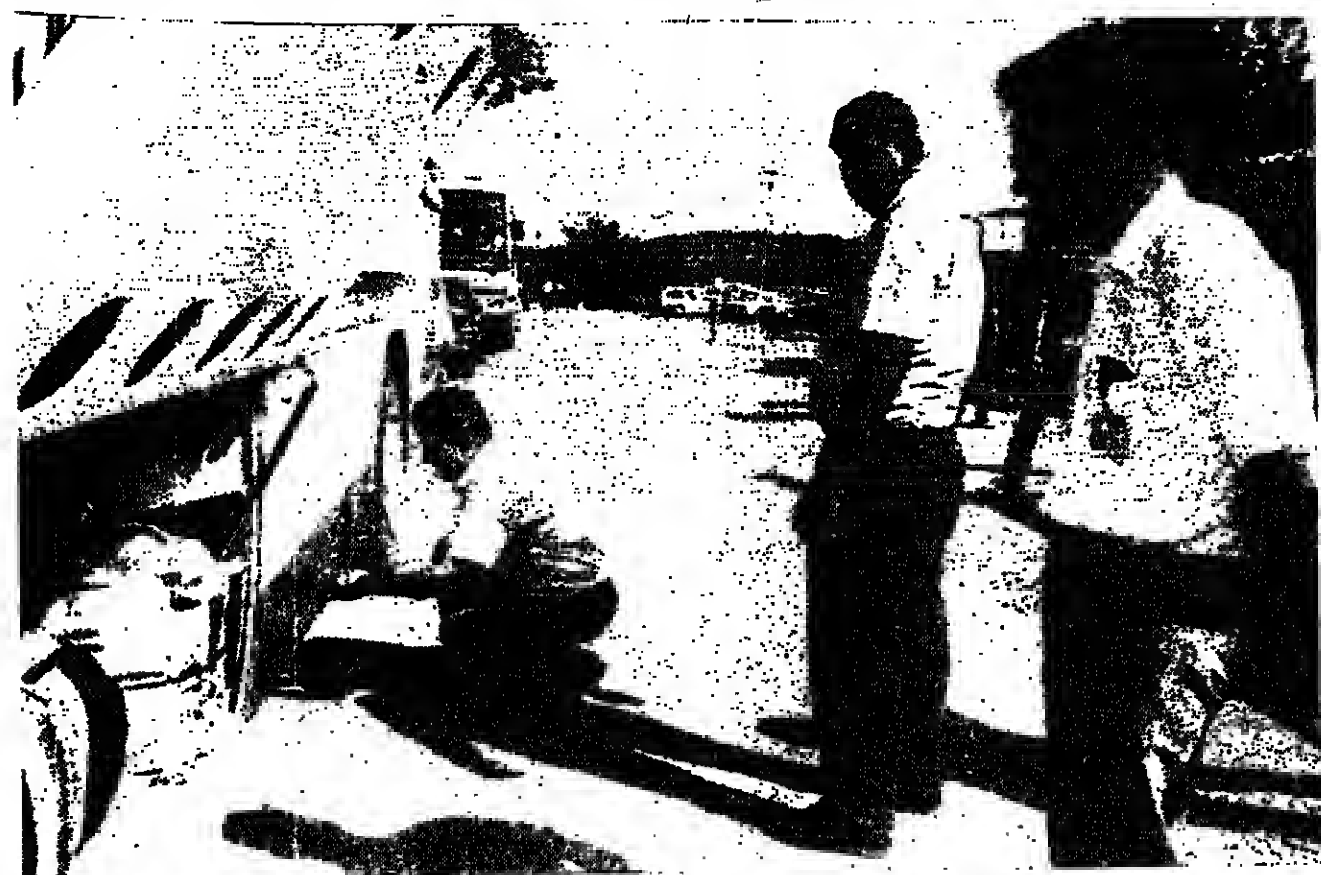
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International observers inspect the luggage space of a Bosnian Serb bus on the Yugoslav-Bosnian border crossing of Srebrenica.

Raca. Observers in rump-Yugoslavia are to check on sanctions against the Bosnian Serbs (AFP photo)

## Claes to be NATO secretary-general

BRUSSELS (AFP) — Willy Claes, the Belgian foreign minister, is to become the next secretary-general of NATO after securing the support of all 16 members of the Alliance, NATO and diplomatic sources said here Monday.

An informal meeting of the member countries' ambassadors, called at short notice, endorsed the 55-year-old as the man to succeed Manfred Woerner to the top non-military job in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Mr. Woerner died of cancer in August and his position has been filled on an interim basis since then by Italy's Sergio Balanzino.

Mr. Claes, a piano-playing Flemish Socialist, was left with a clear run at the post when former Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen announced he was not jettisoning himself forward.

"The race was lost and it was too late to present my candidacy," Mr. Ellemann-Jensen said in Copenhagen. "I learnt that other (NATO) countries had backed the Belgian candidate Willy Claes. I took note of that without bitterness or rancor."

The Danish government led by Social Democrat Poul Nyrup Rasmussen had been prepared to back the candidacy of Mr. Ellemann-Jensen, a fierce political foe. Norwegian candidate Thorvald Stoltenberg, the

U.N. mediator in the former Yugoslavia, withdrew Friday, by which time it was apparent Mr. Claes was romping down the home straight.

Applications for the post close Tuesday and official confirmation of Mr. Claes' nomination could come Thursday when NATO foreign ministers meet informally on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly in New York.

If no announcement is made there a formal meeting will be organised in Brussels either on the 4th or 5th of October, diplomats said.

Other than a requirement for consensus, there is no formal process laid down for nominating a secretary-general but the nominations of Mr. Woerner and his British predecessor were both ratified by meetings of the foreign ministers.

Any doubts that Mr. Claes would be moving across Brussels dissolved last week when senior officials in the Clinton administration let it be known they had no objections to him and were happy to go along with the consensus that had emerged in Europe.

Tradition has it that the secretary-general's job goes to a European while the principle military positions in the alliance are occupied by Americans.

Mr. Claes' campaign received unequivocal backing from Italy, Spain, France and

Britain, the latter being anxious, according to diplomats, to repair some of the damage done by their last-minute veto of Belgian Premier Jean-Luc Dehaene's bid to become president of the EU Commission.

In turn, Mr. Claes' success is expected to see another Belgian, Marc Eyskens, drop out of the race for the vacant position as secretary-general of the Western European Union, leaving Italy's ambassador to NATO, Giovanni Jannuzzi, as favourite.

Mr. Claes, who has been Mr. Dehaene's foreign minister since 1992, will bring a wealth of ministerial experience and contacts to the NATO job, although he has never held a defence portfolio.

Mr. Claes, who is considered a good enough orchestra conductor to have been a professional, funded his way through political science studies by playing in a jazz band.

He has barely looked back since, becoming a government minister for the first time in 1972 when he took charge of education at the tender age of 33 and going on to hold a wide variety of, mainly economic, portfolios.

Mr. Claes, who is likely to be appointed for a nominal four years, will need all that experience as he seeks to build on the start Mr. Woerner made to the task of adapting an alliance born out of the cold war to a world without iron curtains.

## Top U.S., N. Korea negotiators meet on nuclear pact

GENEVA (R) — Top U.S. and North Korean negotiators met Monday in a fourth day of talks to try to reach agreement on restructuring Pyongyang's atomic power industry and lift worries that it is making a nuclear bomb.

U.S. Ambassador-at-large Robert Gallucci and a small team of experts met Pyongyang's delegation headed by Kang Sok-Ju at North Korea's mission in Geneva.

It was the first time the two men had met since the current round of talks opened Friday and the first since Pyongyang threatened to pull out of the negotiations because of U.S. naval exercises off its eastern coast.

Neither side made any comment before the talks, which followed several meetings over the weekend between technical specialists from the two sides on replacing North Korea's graphite reactors with a light-water variety.

Light-water reactors produce little of the plutonium which can be used in producing nuclear weaponry.

The United States and its allies fear Communist North Korea may have used radioactive material from its one working reactor in secret nuclear arms production.

A North Korean official said he understood "some progress" had been made in clearing up what both sides have made clear are big differences on the project and on how Pyongyang can end nuclear tension in East Asia by proving it has not made weapons.

He said the delegations would break for lunch and might reconvene later but it was unclear if Mr. Gallucci and Mr. Kang would meet again Monday.

The experts have given their opinions after the weekend meetings and it is now up to the heads of delegation to look at them together," he said.

The weekend talks carried on despite loud rumblings from the Pyongyang government over the deployment of U.S. warships in the Sea of Japan and threats that it might withdraw from the talks and end its current freeze on its nuclear power programme.

But officials from the two countries, bitter enemies since the 1950-53 Korean War, indicated there was little danger of the negotiating round collapsing.

The technical experts met over the weekend to try to clear some of the hurdles before a final document can be produced. Both sides want to finalise an agreement by the end of the week.

After negotiations in Geneva last month, Pyongyang agreed to freeze construction of two new graphite reactors in return for a U.S. pledge that, with other countries, it would help to replace them with a light-water variety — at an estimated cost of at least \$4 billion.

The two sides now disagree over conditions for the exchange and on how North Korea would be compensated for the energy lost from the cancellation of its existing nuclear programme.

## Bosnian Muslims win U.N. support over arms embargo

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnia's Muslim leaders won a renewed commitment from U.S. President Bill Clinton to end the arms embargo they say has tied their hands through two and a half years of war.

But U.S. officials, aware of the damage to international unity on Bosnia that a lifting of the embargo would cause, said they may delay a vote on the arms ban and hoped that in any case the Bosnians would agree not to press the issue.

The French newspaper Le Monde said the Bosnian Muslims had backed away from their demand for an immediate end to the embargo and did not want it removed until next spring at the earliest, even if they were not ready to say so publicly.

In Sarajevo, gas supplies returned falteringly to parts of the city Monday after Bosnian Serbs agreed to ease the utilities blockade that has blighted life in the capital for the past 11 days.

The airport, the city's main aid gateway, remained closed after a Bosnian Serb officer warned the United Nations that any aircraft using it would be fired at.

"The airlift is off today, and in view of recent developments and the security

situation at the airport it is unlikely that the airlift resume tomorrow or even the day after," a U.N. spokesman said.

Bosnian Radio reported that gas supplies had been interrupted again during Sunday night, but an official at one of the city's beleaguered hospitals said later: "There is some gas but the pressure is low."

Under an agreement brokered by the United Nations in Sarajevo, repair teams were expected to be allowed access to damaged electricity pylons around the city, while power would also be restored to Serb areas of Bosnia.

Since the Serbs who besiege Sarajevo cut off electricity and gas, life for the 300,000 residents of the city has reverted to basics.

Gas is the main cooking and heating fuel and supplies of its alternative, wood, have been exhausted by two winters of siege. Water cannot be pumped without electricity and people must collect water in plastic cans from where they can find it.

The utilities agreement, however, comes at a time when Bosnian Serbs have been issuing belligerent threats against the United Nations following a NATO air raid last week and deci-

sion by the Security Council to impose tougher sanctions.

General Ratko Mladic, the chief of the Bosnian Serb Army, delivered a veiled threat Sunday to the U.N. troops, telling their commanders he could not take responsibility for the safety of peacekeeping operations on his territory.

The main U.N. relief agency said food stocks in Sarajevo would run out in two weeks because Serbs had blocked aid convoys and U.N. humanitarian flights to the besieged capital.

"We have stocks of food for about two weeks," said a spokesman for the U.N. high commissioner for refugees.

One U.N. source said that "relations between Serbs and the United Nations are at their worst."

Bosnian Serb leaders showed no signs they were ready to reverse their opposition to the peace plan that would oblige them to cede war conquests.

They remain defiant in the face of a military blockade imposed by their former patrons in Serbian-led Yugoslavia and sanctions adopted by the Security Council tightening travel and trade restrictions on them.

International mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stol-

tenberg headed for Belgrade for talks with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and with Sweden's Bo Pellnas, the head of an international mission sent to check the effectiveness of Mr. Milosevic's blockade.

Mr. Pellnas must provide Lord Owen and Mr. Stoltenberg with a report that the blockade is holding before the U.N. begins to relax sanctions against Yugoslavia.

Sanctions to be eased include re-establishing sports and cultural ties and reopening Belgrade airport to international flights. In Moscow, Russia's Aeroflot airline said it was ready to fly to Belgrade.

In New York, Bosnia's Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic met U.S. President Bill Clinton Sunday.

The U.S. reaffirmed its intention to begin moving after Oct. 15 to lift the arms embargo on the Bosnian Muslims.

Fundamental disagreements between the United States and its allies — mainly Britain, France and Russia — over lifting the arms embargo has raised tensions.

Britain and France have threatened to pull their peacekeeping contingents out of Bosnia if the arms embargo is lifted.

## Buthelezi under fire for storming TV studio

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — South African Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi faced a barrage of criticism Monday after he burst into a television studio during a live broadcast to confront a spokesman for a rival Zulu group.

The uproar highlighted the tensions caused by a power struggle between Mr. Buthelezi, a traditional Zulu chief and head of the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), and King Goodwill Zwelithini, the king of South Africa's eight million Zulus.

In the latest incident Sunday night, Mr. Buthelezi stormed onto a Durban television set to challenge Prince Sifiso Zulu, presented as a spokesman for the Zulu royal family.

In an outburst which political parties and professional groups assailed as anti-democratic, the minister accused Prince Sifiso of being an impostor, of "belittling me in the media... making a fool of me."

Mr. Buthelezi also accused the prince of drawing a gun on him during their on-air scuffle.

The incident, on the current affairs programme Agenda, came amid rising tensions in the Zulu community caused by the rift between King Goodwill and

Mr. Buthelezi, the monarch's uncle and erstwhile ally.

President Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), the main component of the government of national unity of which Mr. Buthelezi is a member, was quick to condemn the Zulu chief's actions as "scandalous... a frontal attack on freedom of speech and freedom of the press."

The ANC Youth League called the episode "the unimpeachable South African bullwhip behaviour of Mr. Buthelezi."

The National Party (NP) of Deputy President F.W. de Klerk said the IFP leader's actions "did not further his image as a government minister acting in the interest of national unity."

The South African communist Party, an ally of the ANC, said: "This forced hijacking of public air time gives... a frightening insight into the extraordinarily intolerant, anti-democratic and high-handed attitude" of Mr. Buthelezi.

The party said Mr. Buthelezi's outburst raised doubts about his "suitability for public office."

The Liberal Democratic Party said "no politician, no matter how prominent or powerful... should be able to

disrupt a TV programme in the way... (Buthelezi) did."

The IFP, which accused Prince Sifiso of attempting to assassinate Mr. Buthelezi, received its only support from the white right-wing Conservative Party, which said it was "100 per cent behind" Mr. Buthelezi and described controversy over the incident as the ANC, the NP and the media doing "their utmost to discredit" the Zulu leader.

The watchdog Media Monitoring Project criticised Agenda's presenter, Frek Robinson, for interviewing Mr. Buthelezi after he stormed the Durban studio.

"Buthelezi was dictating the content of a programme in the most blatant manner possible," it said.

"The fact that a politician who had violated an opponent's right to free speech was then given the opportunity to express himself to viewers is a serious breach of the SABC's public service obligations."

After previously denying any split with the king, Mr. Buthelezi changed his rhetoric at Sunday's rally in the Kwamashu black township outside Durban, saying the feud put the Zulu nation in crisis.

A few hours later, things turned ngly.

After appearing on a news show in the SABC studio, Mr. Buthelezi and several bodyguards went to another studio where Prince Sifiso, who claimed to have replaced Mr. Buthelezi as a top aide to the king, was waiting to be interviewed on the agenda news show.

Mr. Buthelezi and his guards stormed the studio and when the agenda programme cut to the scene, cameras recorded a scuffle and witnesses said someone pulled a handgun.

Prince Sifiso then left the studio and the agenda commentator, who was running the show from Johannesburg, briefly interviewed Mr. Buthelezi on air.

Mr. Buthelezi claimed Prince Sifiso pulled the gun but Prince Sifiso and SABC Chief Executive Zwelakhe Sisulu said it was a Buthelezi bodyguard.

"The SABC's editorial integrity and independence have been seriously undermined by what can only be described as an invasion of our television studio and the forcible takeover of our agenda programme," Mr. Sisulu said in a statement. He called the incident a challenge to media freedom and said legal action would be taken.



Residents of Bacolor town flee their village as it was overrun by a mud avalanche from Mount Pinatubo volcano, killing 23 people. Fidel Ramos ordered the massive forced evacuation of residents in endangered areas (AFP photo)

## Mudflows trigger fresh evacuation in Philippines

PORAC, Philippines (R) — Thousands of Filipinos fled on trucks, buses and carts Monday after President Fidel Ramos ordered a mass evacuation of villages threatened by mudflows from the Mount Pinatubo volcano.

Mr. Ramos authorised local officials forcibly to evacuate people who refused to leave areas in imminent danger of being swamped by the mudflows thundering down from the volcano for the past four days.

The avalanche of mud and rocks, known as "lahar", has killed 23 people and buried 1,369 houses in at least 15 villages in Porac and Bacolor district in Pampanga province, 80 kilometres north of Manila, relief agencies said.

Apart from Porac and Bacolor, officials have also pinpointed the former U.S. Clark Air Base in Angeles City and five other districts in Pampanga as potential high-risk areas.

In Porac more than 5,000 villagers, many of them clutching children and pets, clambered aboard dozens of trucks, buses and carts to flee to evacuation centres, police said.

About 10,000 people fled high-risk villages in nearby Bacolor and officials said thousands more were preparing to leave.

"There has been a con-

tinuous flow of evacuees since this morning in high-risk villages. Our first priority is to get old people and the women and children out," Bacolor Vice-Mayor Anianas Cantis said by telephone.

"Able-bodied men may remain to guard their property."

No casualties were reported in the fresh surge of mudflows from Pinatubo.

Mudflows have threatened villages around Pinatubo since it erupted in 1991, dumping millions of tonnes of ash and debris on the volcano's flanks in one of the century's biggest volcanic blasts.

The still-hot debris turns

into raging rivers of mud when loosened by rains.

Weather forecasters say they expect more rain to hit the Pinatubo area before the rainy season ends late in October or early November.

Some officials have recommended the permanent evacuation of high-risk villages near the volcano but residents have refused to leave, many out of deep attachment to their homes and land.

"I will come back when the lahar is gone. I will come back and get back by land," said construction worker Virgilio Lugue, 44, before a truck drove him, his wife and eight children to a government evacuation centre.



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## In the middle we walk

SEEING our main streets without traffic lanes or sidewalks trimmed or removed altogether, or our pupils' crossing roads to and from school under the most hazardous conditions, makes us wonder about what is happening in this dear capital of ours. To begin with, the mayor of Amman, Dr. Mamdouh Abbadi, deserves high marks for constructing the so-called "press" tunnel literally overnight in a bid to ease traffic pressure on University Road. The mayor may also deserve a medal for all his efforts to catch up with the rapid urbanisation of the capital. But he and his predecessors certainly get low marks for neglect of certain minimum street requirements such as building adequate sidewalks or proper crossing for children if not for the adult population and a uniform policy to divide all our thoroughfares into lanes so that motorists would learn not to drive haphazardly and everywhere. On these scores and similar ones no one can rightfully claim that there is no money. It will not tax the limited resources of the city if our sidewalks are made only for walking and not parking lots or dump sites for construction material. And why not legislate the width of sidewalks instead of leaving this matter completely up to the discretion of the mayor's office? Similarly making street crossings safe for our children does not and should not cost very much when there is a will to deal with it. Traffic lights, the normal procedure to regulate road crossings, could be too expensive should they be deployed all over Amman. In this case why doesn't the mayor ask the traffic police to pay attention to this danger instead of devoting 90 per cent of their previous time on slapping traffic tickets on drivers for illegal parking? Surely the mayor and his aides have seen how traffic police are used worldwide in the early hours of the morning in and around schools, public places and governmental buildings to assist people in crossing roads. All it takes is a telephone conversation with the chief of police in Amman asking him to assign traffic police in rush hours for the purpose of helping people cross streets when there are no traffic lights.

We are raising these issues because we need to find real solutions and believe funding for the treatment of these problems would not be too taxing. All that solutions need is recognition, awareness and the will to do something about them. This much we are entitled to expect from our municipal authorities.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

JORDANIAN TROOPS' participation in peacekeeping efforts around the world is a source of deep pride to the Jordanian people, said Al Dastour in an editorial Monday. Upon seeing off the batch going to Haiti, His Majesty King Hussein made statements reflecting the feelings of all Jordanians, expressing pride in their mission and urging them to offer help to those who need it, said the daily. It is because the officers' mission is humanitarian in nature that it is a cause of pride to Jordan, which has already sent out troops on similar missions to Cambodia, Croatia and other troubled spots of the world, said the paper. The troops carrying out humanitarian missions are at the centre of appreciation of their kinsmen at home, especially as their actions have honoured Jordan and its people and won the respect of the world community in view of their courage and honesty, added the paper. As we see off another batch on another humanitarian mission, said the paper, we hope that its members will succeed in their mission and help Jordan to retain its image before the world.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour urged the Ministry of Finance to seriously examine the question of public funds due to the state Treasury in the form of taxes on real estate, customs fees and others. The country abounds with cases in which families with poor income are unable to pay the state taxes on their humble homes and the accumulation of fines on the taxes over the years. These are in need of a special treatment on the part of the ministry, which could set up a committee to help resolve the problem, said Ahmad Shaker. The writer said that a decision allowing the indebted persons to pay their dues by instalment would not be sufficient or fair to the needy people because what is needed is special treatment of humanitarian nature and special legislation to replace those rigorous regulations with flexible laws, enabling the public to pay its dues and the state to collect public funds.

## The View from Fourth Circle

# Band aids, window dressing and root causes of southern distress

By Rami G. Khouri

THE U.S.-led military/diplomatic storming of Haiti and the U.S. agreement earlier this month to accept tens of thousands of Cuban refugees every year have little to do with U.S. foreign policy but a lot to do with the underlying condition of states in the developing South of the planet. The United States moved decisively on Haiti and Cuba primarily because of the fear of having to absorb a large and growing wave of black and Hispanic immigrants. All the talk by Washington of restoring democracy, ending human suffering, implementing United Nations resolutions or interdicting transit drug trade is perceived by most of the world, and probably by many Americans, as little more than after-the-fact window dressing. Today as in the recent past, the United States has easily accommodated itself and often even funded and allied itself with Third World regimes characterised by tyranny, human suffering, illegal trafficking in drugs, arms and sex and disdain for international legality.

The anxiety about having to absorb tens, or even hundreds of thousands of black and Hispanic migrants, is only slightly a reflection of American racism, because the United States is already a multi-racial society. We probably would see the same reaction if the United States were confronted with the spectre of having to absorb hundreds of thousands of, say, Christian, white Argentinians or Croats. The deeper fear, I suspect, was that had the flow of Cuban and Haitian migrants not been stopped or controlled, it could have unleashed a far greater torrent of illegal migration to the United States from other parts of the South.

Conditions around the southern world in recent years have improved for a small minority of people, usually comprising the wealthy, land-owning, politically connected elite with deep ties to the Western-dominated global corporate fraternity. The small middle class throughout the Third World has remained small or grown only nominally for the most part, while the majority of low-income and poor people have suffered increasingly severe pressures from inflation, unemployment, poverty, environmental stress and the general malaise of mediocre governance.

The deteriorating conditions that define the lives of a large number of people in the Third World — perhaps two billion of the south's four billion people — are further aggravated by projections into the future. The high rate of population increases in many developing countries, coupled with low real economic expansion and little attention to deteriorating environmental and natural resource bases, virtually assure that socio-economic distress for several billion people will be not only an episodic hazard, but rather a chronic, defining condition of life — and, for at least one billion people, an almost certain verdict of early death or lifelong destitution for their unborn children.

Two dynamics are at work here that prompt more and more people to flee the South for the comforts of the industrialised North, especially towards Western Europe and North America. The first is the gradually escalating

pressure on socio-economic quality of life, measured in lower purchasing power of family incomes, urban stress and increasingly difficult access to affordable housing, nutritious food and clean water. The second problem is the ultimate worst consequence of the first: The problem of societies and entire countries that collapse into civil war, ethnic strife, or sub-national fragmentations, usually because their systems of governance have proved totally incompetent, and sometimes because their very national configuration may be totally inappropriate (especially in Africa the Middle East, where most existing states were hand-made by retreating European colonial powers).

The result is that more and more people around the world are on the move, fleeing their own countries and ancestral lands, or driven out of their own homes by warfare and economic collapse. One of the most useful documents presented to the Cairo conference on population and development earlier this month was a report jointly compiled by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Labour Organisation, and the International Organisation for Migration. This first ever inter-agency attempt to define the scope, nature, causes and directions of international flows of migrants and refugees made several important points, notably:

A- The world's migrants and refugees now total around 130 million, or some 2.4 per cent of the population of the entire world. Of this total, around 20 million are refugees and asylum-seekers, 25 million are internally displaced, and 85 million are regular or irregular/illegal migrants.

B- The trend towards more human displacement is increasing, because post-cold war independence movements have led to outbreak of extreme nationalism, xenophobia and ethnic cleansing, and international communication and transport systems have made it easier for people to move. UNHCR estimates that some 10,000 people are made refugees every day.

C- The root causes of migration have expanded from the traditional quest for employment to causes such as poverty, political persecution, environmental degradation, ethnic tensions and the collapse of basic systems of governance, civil society and the essential services of urban life.

What this important report does not say, because of diplomatic courtesy, but which is the root question that the world must address more honestly, is: Why have some countries collapsed in recent years and generated sudden, massive, desperate waves of migrants and refugees? What are the underlying vulnerabilities and weaknesses that result in the spectacles we have witnessed recently in lands such as Bosnia, Somalia, Lebanon, Liberia, Rwanda, Algeria and Kuwait? The statistics are shocking, but the political realities behind the statistics are even more troubling.

In Rwanda, about 40 per cent of the seven million population was displaced or made refugees outside their country, and around half a million people died.

In Liberia, around one-fifth of the entire population is in

exile in adjacent states.

In Algeria, the government has just announced that 10,000 people have been killed in the last two years; tens of thousands of others have also been wounded or imprisoned while the economy has stagnated due to foreign exchange shortages and political tension.

In Lebanon, according to official government estimates released earlier this month for the first time, the civil war resulted in two-hundred thousand deaths, three-hundred thousand wounded, and nine-hundred thousand who fled the country; these figures represent, respectively, seven, 10 and 30 per cent of the entire Lebanese population. In other words, nearly half the Lebanese population died, was injured or became refugees during the 1975-1985 civil war.

In Kuwait, well over half the entire population fled or stayed out of the country after the Iraqi occupation in August 1990.

In Somalia, a land of seven million, over one million people died of drought, famine and warfare.

In Bosnia and former Yugoslavia, about two-hundred thousands people have been killed and over two million others have become refugees.

Other situations of severe national distress are in process in Russia, Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, Zaire, southern Mexico and other troubled lands, including, also, the South inside the North, i.e. the many inner cities in the United States that represent a Third World situation in terms of basic human development indicators. What we face today in many parts of the world is not the traditional problem of small pockets of refugees or migrants, but situation in which, routinely, between one-quarter and nearly one-half of a country's entire population faces death, injury, displacement, or exile.

These grave situations are noteworthy not only because of the sheer magnitude of national and communal disaster that they reflect, but also because they have happened on three continents and because they seem to be happening more, rather than less, regularly. The U.S. move into Haiti and its response to the Cuba situation, in this context, appear to be a fascinating test case of how the industrialised North may deal with the question of national incoherence in parts of the South. It is unlikely that the United States is really interested in much more than prophylactic or band aid actions to stop the flow of Southern refugees to its shores; at the same time, though, it is intriguing that the United States has defined its aims in Haiti and Cuba in terms that include democratisation, human rights and economic development for the Haitians.

This suggests a greater appreciation for the root causes of the problems of Haiti, Cuba and other distressed Southern societies; but it remains to be seen what role, if any, the United States and the industrialised north can play working with the people of the South to redress their socio-economic imbalances and reinvigorate patterns of national coherence and stability that seemed to work reasonably well in the old, pre-colonial days.

# Hizbollah: Its aims and distorted image

By Maria Holt

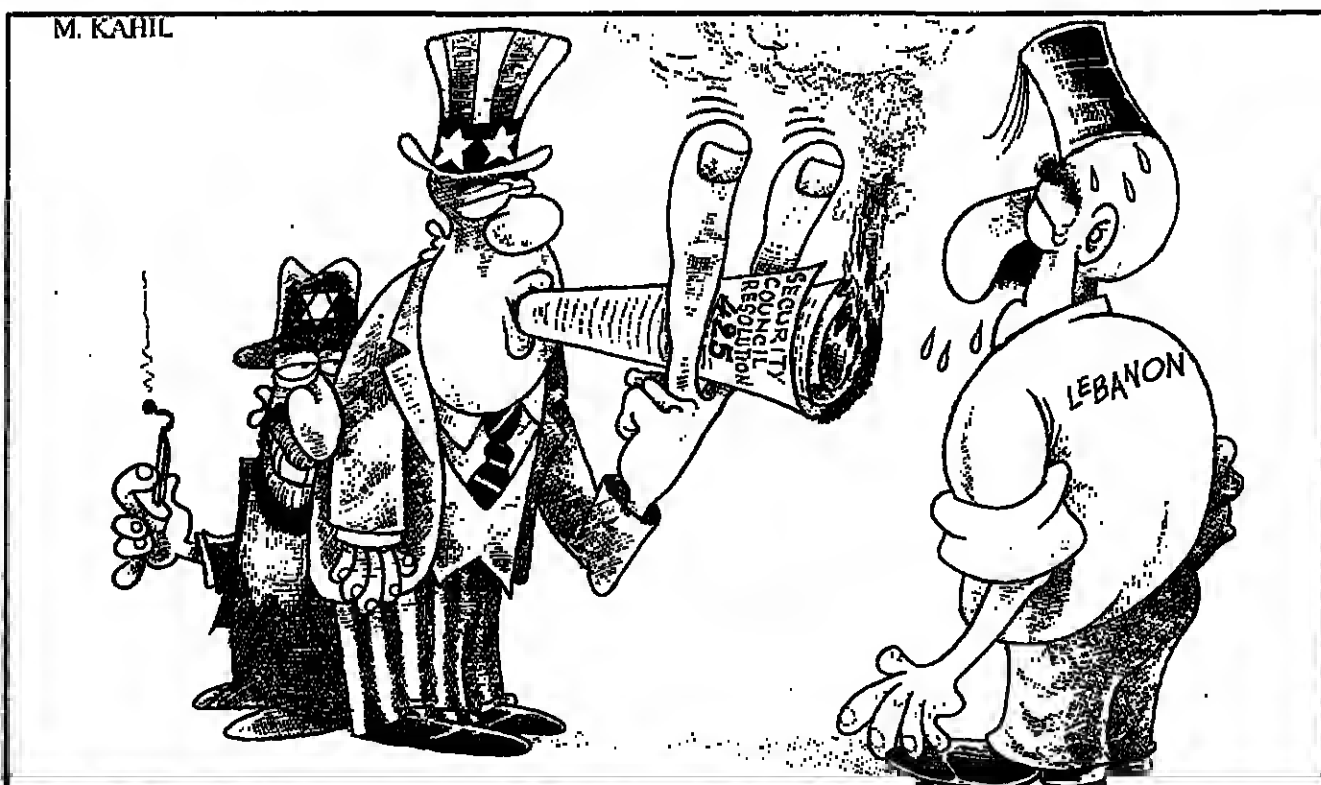
THE RECENT bomb attacks against Israeli targets in Buenos Aires and London, together with the escalation of violence along the Lebanese-Israeli border, serve as a reminder of the existence of Hizbollah, the Party of God. Recently I spent a month in Lebanon carrying out research about Hizbollah and was able to gain first-hand insight into the group's ideology and workings. I discovered an unexpected eagerness to correct a distorted image in the Western media, of terrorism and fanaticism. Both, I think, are inaccurate, but much depends on perspective and also interpretation.

It is worthwhile to examine the roots of Shiite activism in Lebanon. When the last-indeed the only — Lebanese census was carried out, in 1932, the Shiites were in the minority and the political arrangements which emerged with independence from France, in the shape of unwritten "National Pact" of 1943, allotted them a relatively small role in the power-sharing structure. They received the post of parliamentary speaker, at present occupied by Amal leader Nabih Berri.

Musa Sadr and Shiite revival

In the late 1950s, however, with the arrival in Lebanon of the charismatic Iranian-born cleric Musa Al Sadr, the Shiite community began to take a more active role in Lebanese affairs. To start with, Imam Al Sadr sought to gain social justice and greater equality for the Shiites. In the 1960s he created the Movement of the deprived. Although he was keen to work within the Lebanese confessional system, his efforts largely unsuccessful.

One reason for his failure was the apparent unwillingness of the central government to accommodate Shiite aspirations. Another was the Palestinian presence in the south of Lebanon. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) committed to fighting Israel from Lebanese territory, showed scant concern for the welfare of the local Shiite villagers, who tended to bear the brunt of Israeli retaliation. As a result of



feelings of intense frustration, a Shiite militia developed out of the Movement of the Deprived. Known by its acronym Amal (Arabic for "hope"), it became a symbol of Shiite militancy.

In the 1970s three events had a profound effect on the Shiites of Lebanon. The first was the outbreak of the Lebanese civil war in 1975; the second was the mysterious disappearance, in 1978, of Musa Al Sadr during a visit to Libya; and the third was the success of the Islamic revolution in Iran in 1979.

After the disappearance of Imam Al Sadr, the Shiite community became divided. Some were dissatisfied with the new secular leadership of Amal. In the 1980s, when Amal besieged the camps of "brother" Palestinian Muslims, others became disillusioned. The stage was set for the success of a more radical, indeed "moral," movement. Hizbollah seemed well suited to the task. In addition, as a result of demographic changes in Lebanon, the Shiites are now believed to be the largest single sect and they are seeking constructive ways in which to make use of their power.

Hizbollah was founded in 1982, in response to these happenings and also to Israel's massive invasion of Lebanon in June of that year. Its principal objectives at the time of its incep-

tion were to rid Lebanon of the Israeli occupation and to remove "Western imperialist influences," seen as a contributing factor to the civil war.

These aims have changed somewhat in the years since and a note of pragmatism has crept into Hizbollah's vision. The ending of the Israeli occupation of a strip of southern Lebanon, however, retains top priority and, to this end, Hizbollah has maintained armed resistance activities in the south. In addition, with the formal ending of the civil war in 1990, the group consented to enter the parliamentary process. In the 1992 general election, it gained eight seats in the Lebanese parliament.

The organisation participates in Lebanese national life in ways which are political, military and, above all, social. It has established a network of social institutions throughout Lebanon, from hospitals and schools to the very active Martyrs' Foundation, which provides services to the families Hizbollah martyrs and detainees and members of the resistance. There are at present two well equipped hospitals run by Hizbollah, one in the southern suburbs of Beirut and the other in Baalbek, and another is planned for the south. Institutes have been set up to train nurses and teachers and a sponsorship project

to help the children of martyrs has been established.

Hizbollah and the Western media

But, in contrast to the situation on the ground, the relationship between Hizbollah and the Western media has been a stormy and generally uncomprehending one. For the West, Hizbollah represents the "darkness" of Lebanon, the suicide bombings of Western targets, the kidnapping of individuals. Even today, when a bomb goes off in Lebanon or Buenos Aires, Hizbollah is top of the list of suspects.

It is important to distinguish between media images of "Islamic terrorism" and Hizbollah's real intentions. For all the above reasons, it would seem — to say the least — short-sighted for Hizbollah to embark upon a campaign against Israeli targets abroad. The organisation's leadership has emphatically denied responsibility for the latest outrages and it is clear that, at present, its interests lie within the Lebanese political framework. They may not agree with all the government's objectives and would certainly prefer to reform the archaic confessional system but, for the time being, have made the decision to operate within its confines.

Given the evidence, it is far too simplistic, and even

dangerous, to jump to automatic and highly public assumptions of Islamist guilt whenever a terrorist incident occurs. This merely inflames public opinion against Muslim communities in the West and does nothing whatsoever for the reputation of political parties in the Middle East, such as Hizbollah.

At the same time, while it is important to correct the simplistic image of "Islamic terrorism," one should also appreciate the enormous anger which exists, particularly among the marginalised Shiite community in Lebanon. They have seen their homes and villages in the south of the country bombed and their loved ones killed or injured by an Israeli state which seems to regard them as mere pawns in the game of international politics. These people remark bitterly that the world still has a very partial view when it comes to Israel.

Although the Israelis, together with their toughish side-kicks the South Lebanon Army (SLA), continue to terrorise Lebanon on a regular basis and with impunity, they receive minimal condemnation. Yet, whenever there is a response, for example attacks by Hizbollah fighters on Israeli targets inside Israel's "security zone," there is an immediate outcry. The local people of southern Leba-

non would like to see some attempt at balanced reporting on the part of the Western media.

Justification of armed resistance

It should not surprise us that armed resistance persists in Lebanon. After all, according to international law and United Nations resolutions, Israel has no right to be in any part of the country. It has no claims on Lebanese territory, whatever justifications its leaders might offer. Equally, it is a recognised right of people under alien occupation to resist. But this is a much simpler matter than many commentators or apologists for Israeli interference in the affairs of its neighbours would have us believe. The narrow strip in the south of Lebanon is a straightforward case of illegal occupation against the wishes of the indigenous population. Hizbollah's mandate is to rid the country of this hated occupation and, in this respect, it has the support of the majority of Lebanese.

I met many ordinary Shiites, male and female, who are fighting against the continued Israeli assault on their country. These actions range from the imposition of full-scale occupation in the south to regular attacks against selected targets outside the occupation zone, usually referred to as "terrorist bases," and also the routine terrorisation of the population.

Everyone, needless to say, expresses the heartfelt desire for peace but, they ask, peace on whose terms? Israel has shown very little inclination to negotiate on a genuine basis with Lebanon. It tends to bring in complicating factors, such as the presence of Syria in other parts of Lebanon or the activities of Islamic militants against Israel targets. What is disturbing, on the one hand, is the willingness of the Western media to accept Israeli accounts at face value; and on the other hand, the evident lack of interest by the international community in bringing this agonising conflict to a just conclusion. After all, the longer it drags on the more entrenched the hatred on both sides becomes, particularly in the hearts of younger generations.

Middle East International.



## Jordan dismisses report

(Continued from page 1)

said the source without elaboration.

Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin also dampened the speculation, telling Israeli radio and television that the meeting "will not result in any breakthrough."

"Certainly some progress is being made in the negotiations, but we won't see real progress in several months," Mr. Beilin said.

That appeared to be more in line with an Israeli army radio report quoting Information Minister Jawad Al Anani as saying that progress has been made lately in Jordanian-Israeli bilateral negotiations and that the delegations were making arrangements for demarcating the border and sharing water.

Jordan has firmly stated that there could be a peace accord without addressing the Kingdom's territorial claims and its demand for its rightful share of water in the north.

Jordanian negotiators have said that they found their Israeli counterparts dragging their feet in the initial rounds of negotiations launched after the signing of the Washington Declaration on July 25.

Analysts said the Israeli claims that a draft peace accord with Jordan was in the

making could be a bid to encourage Damascus to accept a meeting between Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa and Mr. Peres at the U.N.

"Israeli reports and claims have always to be taken with a pinch of salt, particularly when it comes to the peace process these days," according to an analyst. "One has always to look critically at those reports and try to fathom the motivations behind them."

Efforts to arrange a Sharaa-Peres meeting made headway during a visit to the Middle East of Washington's regional troubleshooter Dennis Ross last week, but the precise status of those efforts was not known.

In his comments to the Jordan Times on Monday, Dr. Mnasher also denied reports that Jordanian and Israeli negotiators would meet at the Mediterranean town of Hertzliia for the next round of talks in October.

"The precise venue for the talks has not been finalised, but I can tell you this: It won't be anywhere in an Israeli population centre," Dr. Mnasher said.

The talks are scheduled to begin on Oct. 10 and would last for two weeks alternating between Jordanian and Israeli venues. The Jordanian venue is expected to be the Dead Sea Spa Hotel, which has already hosted several rounds of negotiations.

## Clinton lifts Haiti sanctions

(Continued from page 1)

killed 10 Haitian gunmen in the first clash between U.S. troops and Haitians.

An estimated 800 police, soldiers and "attaches," civilian gunmen attached to the army, were either hiding or fleeing.

The Marines, meanwhile, backed off their initial report that the Haitians fired first Saturday night in the deadly gunbattle outside a police station.

"One of our patrols saw a gesture by an individual with an Uzi machine gun. He took that individual out and a fire-fight began," said Col. Tom Jones, commanding officer of the Marine air-ground task force.

"The lieutenant shot him when he made a gesture to raise his Uzi," Mr. Jones continued. He said he could not say who fired first. The gunfight broke out after an Echo Company platoon on its evening patrol stopped across the street from the police barracks.

A Haitian and an American wounded in the firefight were being treated on the USS Wasp, a U.S. helicopter assault ship.

Police and soldiers throughout the northern port city of 75,000 abandoned their posts sometime between Saturday night's firefight and dawn Sunday. Word spread quickly to the streets, and hundreds poured out to loot the empty buildings.

At the main military barracks, Haitians took everything they could get their hands on, even tubas and trombones, which they played in the streets.

Some people fired guns into the air, but many handed weapons over to some of the 1,900 U.S. Marines in Cap-Haitien. One civilian even handed over a skull with a bullet hole.

Haitian army chief Gen. Raoul Cedras and Gen. Hugh Shelton, commander of the U.S. operation in Haiti, flew to Cap-Haitien on Sunday for a brief inspection tour.

Col. Jones said Gen. Cedras accused the Marines of atrocities. Later, the armed forces condemned the clash as a "brutal and odious act."

Marines set up checkpoints across Cap-Haitien, trying to keep the chaotic scene from

turning dangerous. Crowds caught at least two attaches, tied their hands behind their backs and turned them over to Marines. One of the men was severely beaten.

Pierre Peter, a political activist, said the crowds did not kill the two men to avoid tarnishing the name of Lavas, the political movement that supports Mr. Aristide.

Mr. Aristide, Haiti's first democratically elected president, was overthrown by Gen. Cedras in a military coup in 1991. Gen. Cedras and his advisers, who have tolerated years of violence against Aristide supporters, promised last year to step down but did not, prompting the United Nations to impose strict sanctions against Haiti.

Gen. Cedras has now agreed to step down Oct. 15. In the last week, more than 10,000 U.S. troops arrived in Haiti, aiming to reduce the level of violence before Mr. Aristide's return.

U.S. embassy spokesman Stanley Schragger said U.S. forces would provide security at the Haitian parliament, which was to meet Wednesday to consider an amnesty law for military leaders.

Mr. Schragger said the "illegitimate" lawmakers elected in a disputed January 1993 vote would not be allowed to enter the parliament. But he said U.S. forces would not go inside the building.

The U.S. spokesman added that the elected mayor of Port-au-Prince, Evans Paul, would assume office Thursday. Mr. Paul had been barred from taking office since the September 1991 coup.

In Port-au-Prince, hundreds of pro-U.S. demonstrators on Monday surrounded the police precinct headquarters where the overthrow of President Aristide was launched three years ago. They ringed the downtown building while U.S. troops moved in to secure it.

Hundreds more thronged outside army headquarters where Gen. Cedras met for two hours with U.S. Ambassador William Swing and Gen. Shelton.

The openness of the demonstrations at two of the most dangerous sites for pro-democracy supporters showed the rapidly eroding power of the military a week after the U.S. intervention.

## Yeltsin proposes nuclear pact

(Continued from page 1)

five major nuclear powers agree to new cuts in atomic missiles, to limit the production of enriched material used in nuclear weapons and to impose a complete ban on testing.

"This treaty would help break the biggest link in the nuclear chain and guarantee irreversible and predictable movements by all nuclear nations toward nuclear disarmament," the document said.

Russia and the United States agreed in the START II treaty to further slash their stocks of nuclear missiles but the new Russian parliament has yet to ratify the document.

Mr. Yeltsin would suggest

reuse of nuclear material which had been extracted from decommissioned atomic weapons.

The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, due to be renegotiated in 1995, should be extended, the document said.

On Monday, U.S. President Bill Clinton in a wide-ranging speech focused on building new economic and political structures in the post-cold war, announced a new plan to remove an estimated 85 million landmines in 62 countries used to kill and maim.

"I ask all nations to join with us and conclude an agreement to reduce the number and availability of



New arrivals of job-seekers from rural Chinese towns wait outside Beijing central train station. Faced with a growing influx of temporary residents, the Beijing authorities have decided to make outsiders pay for the privilege of living and working in Beijing (AFP photo)

## China is one trigger happy country

By Philippe Massonnet  
Agence France Presse

BEIJING — The gunman who randomly killed 10 people on a Beijing street last week did so as police in China face a proliferation of armed crimes despite recent attempts to crackdown on gun-trafficking.

"It's like before," said an employee of the Beifang shooting range north of Beijing, one of the best-equipped of the 150 such centres which have sprung up in China in recent years.

"Like before" means that customers can shoot AK-47 assault rifles, rocket-launchers or heavy machine guns, despite a decree

issued by the police ministry in November outlawing military weapons in the shooting ranges.

"If the new regulation is violated, the shooting ranges will be closed and their owners penalised," according to the directive, aimed at curbing the burgeoning traffic in weapons.

However, almost a year later, the Russian-made Kalashnikov rifle is still being fired on the shooting ranges, as most of them belong to the Chinese army and are a valuable source of revenue.

The Beifang range receives about 100 customers a day, Chinese and fore-

igners, who each spend several hundred yuan (\$12 per 100 yuan).

"One firing of a rocket-launcher cost me 560 yuan," said one foreign resident who went last month.

About 100 kilometres south of Beijing, in Hebei province, is the famous Baigou market offering all sorts of items, from fake Rolex watches to real pistols, which one can buy and resell without a permit.

Ten people were killed and 40 injured in the attack in Beijing last Tuesday, when a Chinese army lieutenant, identified as Tian Mingjian, opened fire on cars at random with an AK-47 outside a compound

housing foreigners.

The rampage lasted for around 10 minutes before police reinforcements arrived and shot the killer dead.

Last month, the government launched yet another campaign against the illegal possession of firearms, ordering factories making civilian weapons to cease unauthorised sales.

But at a time when there is pride in making money and struggling state companies are trying to survive, it is feared that this order will be ignored as well.

A police crackdown in 1992 yielded 400,000 illegal weapons, 7,000 of which were military models, but

this failed to stop a growing traffic encouraged by the rise of Hong Kong and Taiwan-based triads in the country.

The Beijing Youth News described Thursday how the powerful Chinese mafia, such as the notorious 14K triad in Hong Kong, has been expanding its presence in the southern provinces for the last 10 years.

Violence and triad-supported gangs are polluting China, the paper said, citing law enforcement officials in southern Guangdong province, who said that "drugs and weapons traffic organised by the triads seriously threatens social order."

Many of the hold-ups and crimes committed in Hong Kong were committed with weapons stolen in China, according to police in the colony.

In a recent report on maritime trafficking in the first half of this year, Chinese customs officials expressed concern about the increased smuggling of firearms, although they released no figures.

The rise in the official crime rate, especially in armed attacks, confirms the increasing use of firearms, not only in the big cities but in smaller towns as well, which are frequently reported in local newspapers.

## Watching Rwanda's distress, Burundi hopes — and fears — for own future

By Karin Davies  
The Associated Press

BUJUMBURA, Burundi — Burundi is threatened by the same ethnic hatreds that brought the bloodbath in Rwanda, but because its northern neighbour exploded so violently, Burundi may not.

While an estimated 500,000 Rwandans were slaughtered after a suspicious plane crash killed both countries' presidents in April, Burundians confined most of their hostilities to endless arguments over jobs in the new government.

Now they wait in hope and fear for the appointment, expected this week, of a new president to fill the political vacuum and try to end sporadic ethnic violence.

"We all are aware that the crisis in Rwanda is a horrific example of what could happen here," said Lt. Col. Nicodemus Nduhirubusa, adviser to the defence minister. "We all think that we have to work together so it cannot."

Burundi plunged into turmoil nearly a year ago, for many of the same reasons that Rwanda was ravaged by civil war.

Burundi's population is about 85 per cent Hutu and 14 per cent Tutsi. Belgian colonisation protected the leadership of the Tutsis. After independence in 1962, clashes with Hutus forced the Tutsis to share power, leading to the election of Burundi's first Hutu president, Melchior Ndadaye, in June 1993.

The army, however, is made up mostly of Tutsis, who long have dominated the country's political and economic life.

Mr. Ndadaye was assassinated in October in a failed coup by renegade Tutsi

had gained too much power. In a wave of reprisal killings, 100,000 Burundians were killed and 500,000 fled for safety.

Interim president Cyprien Ntaryamira, a Hutu, died on April 6 with his Rwandan counterpart, plunging Burundi into political and economic chaos.

All international aid to Burundi has been suspended until a new president is named. Industrial production has dropped by a quarter, and by next month, the government may not be able to meet its payroll.

The national assembly is scheduled to choose a new president this week — and odds are its 81 members will play it safe and stick with Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, the caretaker leader since April.

Diplomatic sources say the number of ethnic killings is rising in the north and east, where Hutu extremists reportedly attack in small bands and take refuge in forests. The army retaliates.

In Bujumbura, young Tutsis order general strikes, shutting down the capital while they terrorise Hutus at makeshift roadblocks. Fifteen Hutus were killed in two days of violence in August.

On Sept. 13, Hutus attacked military posts in the most-likely Hutu suburb of Kamenge, killing two soldiers and wounding four. Officially, 61 civilians were killed in reprisal, but local residents listed the names of nearly 400 dead Hutus.

In the past 11 months, the leader of the biggest Hutu party, the Burundi Democratic Front, has tried to mollify the Tutsi opposition and Tutsi-led army. His efforts have been complicated by the arrival of more than 200,000 Rwandan Hutus seeking safe-

ty. "We have to heal the wounds, to get people to tolerate each other, to settle their differences," the caretaker president, Ntibantunganya, said. "Without peace, nothing can be accomplished."

Backing from the army, however, is crucial. The defence ministry's Nduhirubusa said the army will support Mr. Ntibantunganya. But extremists within the army's ranks have turned on Hutu leaders in the past.

"In Burundi it isn't one ethnic group against the other. Hutus against Tutsis. It is brother against brother, extremists versus moderates," said Charles Mukasi, a Hutu who leads the Union for National Progress (UPRONA), the biggest Tutsi party.

Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, the U.N. secretary-general's special representative who has worked to steady tempers in Burundi since December, is nonetheless cautiously optimistic about Burundi's future.

"I think having a president and a government will have an immediate impact because it will end the ambitions. I want to be president. I want to be prime minister. It signals a return to normalcy," Mr. Abdallah said.

He warned that the killings would not end. But most expect the violence to remain at a persistent but low level.

"I don't think this is going to be another Rwanda," said Shelly Pittnermann, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees representative in Bujumbura. "The security situation is very unstable. There can be violence here or there at anything. But I don't think there will be generalised vio-



A Hutu refugee mother carrying her child are still living in refugee camps near Goma, waits for a consultation at the Red Cross dispensary of the Kibumba camp north of The fear of similar tragedies could be keeping the guns silent in Burundi (AFP photo)



They must also export a designated proportion of their products, but the officials said that under the new policy this requirement would be waived for attractive chemical ventures.

The agency quoted ministerial sources as saying the government would in particular encourage investment in large-scale products involving coal chemicals, petrochemicals and natural gas.

Minister of the Chemical Industry Gu Xilian said Chi-







## Japan, China set to grapple over Taiwan's invitation to Asian Games

TOKYO (R) — Japan Monday signalled it would tough it out with China in an increasingly acrimonious dispute over invitations to let Taiwanese officials attend the opening of the Asian Games, officials said here Monday.

Only six days before the grand ceremonies, a foreign ministry official said: "We have no intention of changing our set policy on this matter."

And government spokesman Kozo Igarashi confirmed that Vice Prime Minister Hsu Li-Teh would be among three Taiwanese invited to the region's biggest sports show.

The two peoples (of Japan and China) hope that the games will go ahead in a pleasant manner," the spokesman said, without further comment.

China has been piling the pressure on Japan to scrap the invitation to the three officials, seeing in it an obvious encouragement to the "renegade" Chinese province of Taiwan.

It has warned of a "deterioration" in Sino-Japanese

ties, and even of a boycott of the games — planned as a showcase for China's emergence as an athletic superpower — if the Taiwanese officials show up.

The warning was spiced with a reminder of Japan's atrocities in pre-war and war-time Asia.

Japan's apparent steadfastness is a remarkable contrast with its traditionally supple response to China. It has traditionally taken care over to irk China on the Taiwan question, ever since it recognised Beijing in 1972 as the sole legitimate government of China.

The first concrete result of the spat has been China's decision to scrap the arrival of Sports Minister Li Teying, a politician member, Saturday at the head of the Chinese delegation for the Hiroshima Games.

"We were informed of the cancellation by the Chinese embassy," said Makato Sakai, secretary-general of the Japan-China Friendship Association, which had been linked to the visit.

"It said Taiwan is trying to exploit sport for political ends, and that Japan has not upheld its 1972 undertakings," Sakai said. "The embassy told us that the government and the Chinese people could not tolerate this."

While the Japanese government does not seriously believe that China will snub the games, the cancellation of Li's visit goes beyond the mere realm of sport.

Li, who is also a member of the state council in charge of the commission for restructuring the economy, was also scheduled to meet Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama and several of his predecessors, including Noboru Takeshita, Toshiki Kaifu and Tsutomu Hata.

The financial daily Nihon Keizai also reported a further repercussion: Beijing has told Tokyo to postpone a visit to China, scheduled for the end of this week, by the minister of international trade and industry, Ryutaro Hashimoto.

A number of Japanese commentators predict that Murayama's intended visit to China, set to take place by

the end of the year, will run into problems.

Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono was to meet Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen Monday, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly, in a bid to defuse the quarrel.

A Japanese diplomat, speaking on condition that he not be identified, said Tokyo felt it was the unwitting victim of an inter-Chinese squabble, and was increasingly irritated at being placed under pressure from Beijing.

From the Japanese point of view, China's focus on Hsu is incomprehensible, given that the official is after all president of the Taiwan Olympic Committee.

In addition, China has already notched up a victory by forcing Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui to abandon plans to attend the games.

Tokyo-Beijing ties have key strategic value — but at the same time, Japan cannot completely ignore Taiwan, an influential democracy and economic power, the diplomat said.



Britain's Lennox Lewis sprawls on the canvas after being stopped in 31 seconds in the second round of his WBC world heavyweight title fight against American Oliver McCall Sunday (AFP photo)

## New champion McCall claims referee did Lewis a favour

LONDON (R) — Newly crowned world heavyweight champion Oliver McCall claimed that opponent Lennox Lewis might have suffered serious injury had their World Boxing Council (WBC) fight Saturday continued beyond the second round.

Lewis was sent sprawling by a fierce right hand from the American challenger, a former sparring partner for Mike Tyson, and was counted out by Mexican referee Lupe Garcia just 31 seconds into the second round at Wembley.

There were angry claims from the Lewis camp that their fighter had been "robbed" but McCall said the referee had saved the Briton from potentially heavy punishment.

"We've had a couple of fatal injuries not too long ago ... it was good he stopped it when he did," said McCall, reflecting on the most important punch of his career. "There was a lot of time left in the fight and I think he could have been injured."

Lewis managed to pull himself up at the count of six but the defending champion's eyes were glazed and his legs were rubbery. It marked the end of Britain's 21-month hold on the heavyweight crown and represented Lewis's first professional defeat after 25 wins.

Referee Garcia insisted it was "my duty to protect the fighter" and was backed up

by top British referee Larry O'Connell, who has officiated in 25 world title fights.

"Leonox was gone, you could see that by the way he tried to get up," said O'Connell.

"You've got to remember we're dealing with big powerful heavyweights, not just kids. The referee's action was right in my opinion."

While American promoter Dan Duva prepared a formal protest, to be heard next month, McCall and his advisors were making the most of a result which has totally altered the heavyweight picture.

McCall said he had spoken to Tyson by phone before and after the fight and irresponsible American promoter Don King confirmed the pair were likely to meet once the former champion had been released from custody.

In the meantime, opportunities are looming for another British heavyweight Frank Bruno and his promoter Mickey Duff after King gleefully dismissed the possibility of granting Lewis a swift rematch.

"The chances of a rematch are between slim and none and slim's out of town," quipped King. "We'd much prefer to fight Bruno because he's a gentleman. We've been talking to our friend Mr. Duff. If he honours some commitments, Frank will get a chance."

King also took the opportunity to blast Lewis's advi-

sors, labelling them "inept and incompetent" and suggesting the former Canadian Olympic champion had gone backwards as a fighter.

McCall, 29, who took his record to 25 wins from 30 fights, said Tyson had told him to take control of the bout from the first bell.

"I knew if I hit him a couple of times, he would go. If the referee had allowed it to go on, he would have got the same again."

"I've never regarded myself as a sparring partner. This proves I was right all along."

McCall correctly identified a major defensive error in Lewis's ring work — a tendency to leave himself exposed after throwing a right.

"If the right misses, Lewis nearly falls over," McCall said. "I was trying to lure him into throwing the right hand and then I hit him with a straight right. We all know the quickest way to get where you want is in a straight line."

McCall joins Larry Holmes, Ken Norton and Jimmy Ellis as fighters who rose from the ranks of sparring partner to world heavyweight champion, leaving Lewis to an uncertain future.

He had decided to shift his fighting base from Britain to the U.S. but, assuming a rematch with McCall is not forthcoming, is now being lined up by Duva to meet the winner of the Michael Moorer-George Foreman fight Nov. 5.

## Doohan wins Argentine Grand Prix

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Season champion Michael Doohan of Australia Sunday confirmed his supremacy in the 500cc category with an easy victory in the Argentine Motorcycle Grand Prix.

Doohan, 29, took the lead on the fifth lap and never gave it up.

He guided his Honda around the 27-round, 117.45 km Oscar Galvez Municipal Raceway, in a time of 48 minutes, 12.812 seconds and at an average speed of 146.162 kph.

American Doug Chandler, riding an Italian-made Cagiva, was second, 8.742 seconds later.

Another American on a Cagiva, John Kocinski — who took pole position after posting the best timings on Friday's and Saturday's practice sessions — was third, 16.969 seconds after the champion.

Doohan wrapped up the title when he won the Czech Grand Prix earlier this month. Sunday's victory was his ninth of the season.

The only incident in the race was when Kevin Mitchell from Britain suffered a spectacular fall from his Yamaha on the first curve after the start.

He was taken from the course on a stretcher but was not seriously injured.

In a very competitive 250cc race, Japan's Tadayuki Okada, riding a Honda, made a spectacular comeback to win the race. He had a time of 45 minutes, 09.167 seconds.

Okada took the lead on the second lap and was passed by Italy's Loris Capirossi on a Honda on the sixth. But the Japanese recovered the lead again on the 14th round and fought hard to keep it down to the end of the race.

Capirossi, who took pole position, finished fifth behind Okada, Italy's Massimiliano Biaggi, Japan's Tetsuya Harada and France's Jean-Philippe Ruggia.

## Argentina's Boca Juniors win at last

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Boca Juniors won for the first time in the current Argentine soccer championship when they beat Deportivo Espanol 3-1 at the weekend.

Boca, with two uninspiring draws and a defeat in their previous three games in the Apertura championship, appeared to be on the way to incurring the wrath of their fans once again when they fell behind in the sixth minute to a goal by striker Roberto Oste.

But first-half goals by Uru-

guayan striker Ruben da Silva, Alejandro Faria and Alberto Marcio turned the game around, to the relief of beleaguered coach Cesar Luis Menotti.

South American champions Velez Sarsfield kept up their 100 per cent record with a 2-1 win away to Mandiyu which put them two points clear at the top of the table.

Second-placed Huracan and Independiente, champions of the 1993-94 Clausura tournament which finished in August, both lost for the first time.

## Palmeiras wins for 9th time in 10 games

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Palmeiras won for the ninth time in 10 matches as what critics called a meaningless first stage of the Brazilian soccer championship came to an end at the weekend.

Palmeiras came from behind to beat Parana 4-2 away to finish the first stage top of Group D with 19 points out of a possible 20.

With the score at 2-2, striker Edmundo hit the decisive goal for Palmeiras in the 79th minute. Midfielder Mauricio sealed success with the fourth goal three minutes from time.

Palmeiras take a bonus point into the second stage as their reward for finishing top of the group.

Group A was won by Corinthians, who beat Cricioma 3-2 with goals by World Cup striker Viola, former international and Torino striker Walter Casagrande

and central defender Henrique.

Flamengo finished second in the group after beating Sport Recife 3-0 at the Maracana Stadium, striker Savaio scoring a hat-trick inside 16 minutes in the second half.

Botafogo won the bonus point in Group B despite losing 2-0 away to Vitoria, who had been previously without a win, while Guarani beat Cruzeiro 2-1 away to win Group C.

Also in Group C, Vasco da Gama fielded a reserve side in their home game with Bahia because the first team was in South Korea on an excursion to bring in cash for the club.

The reserves lost 3-2 in front of just 328 fans. Vasco had already qualified for the second round.

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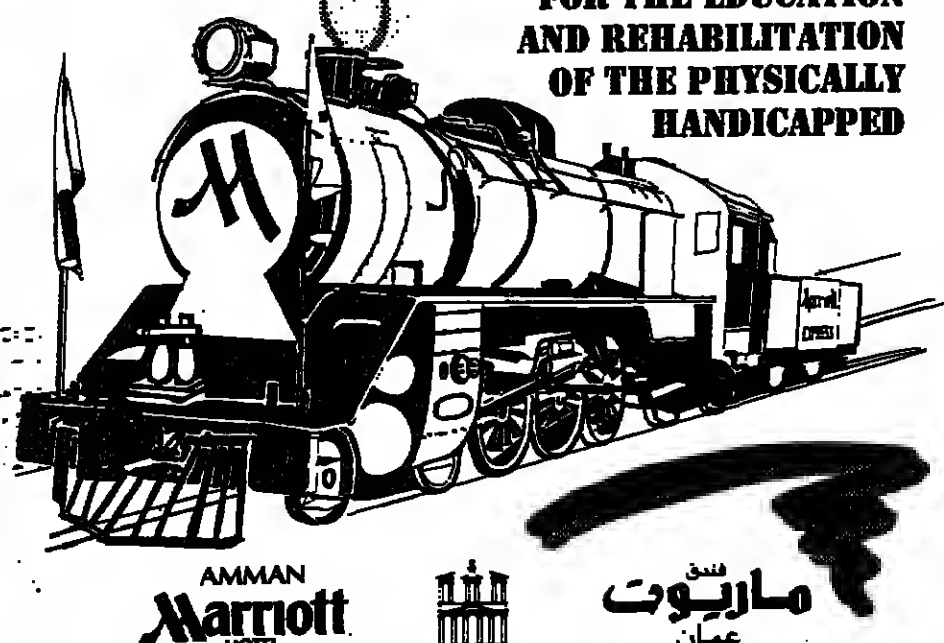
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## Monument to late Brazilian champ Ayrton Senna unveiled in Estoril

ESTORIL, Portugal (AP) — A monument to the late three-time Formula One champion Ayrton Senna was unveiled Sunday at the Estoril Circuit where the Brazilian won his first Formula One race in 1985.

Senna, who died May 1 after a high-speed crash at the Italian Grand Prix in Imola, Italy, was an adopted favourite son of Portuguese fans and owned a home near the Estoril Circuit.

The 3.5-metre (11.5-foot) white marble pillar was inaugurated before Sunday's Portuguese Grand Prix next to the sweeping "Parabolica" bend, now renamed the "Senna Curve," in a ceremony attended by Brazil's ambassador to Portugal, Jose Aparecido de Oliveira, and Senna's former girlfriend, Adriane Galisteu.



Brazilian Adiana Galisteu (centre), companion of the late Ayrton Senna of Brazil, reflects with fans and friends of the Formula One pilot during a ceremony at the Ayrton Senna Monument near the Estoril racetrack Sunday (AFP photo).

A brass plate fronting the pillar bore Senna's own thoughts on the risks of his high-speed profession:

"When our last day comes, it has come. It could be today or in 50 years time, but one thing is sure — it will arrive."

Senna won his first Grand Prix in Portugal in 1985, driving a Lotus. He went on to win world championships in 1988, 1989 and 1991 for McLaren.

The Brazilian switched to Williams-Renault this year but was killed when his car crashed at more than 300 kph (180 mph).

## Germany's tennis future looks bleak after Davis Cup defeat

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — Germany's future as a Davis Cup power looks bleak following its semifinal defeat by Russia. Disputes involving players and the federation are ripping the team apart.

Russia completed a 4-1 victory over the defending champion Sunday. Yevgeny Kafelnikov beat Michael Stich 7-5, 6-3, while Bernd Karbacher scored Germany's only point, beating Alexander Volkov 6-4, 6-1.

Stich had already made sure of reaching his first Davis Cup final by sweeping the opening singles and winning Saturday's doubles. With Stich and Boris Becker, Germany would have one of the strongest teams in the world. Becker, however, has refused to play for Germany the last two years and Stich now says he too may quit.

"I will give the German Tennis Federation a list of things that have to be fulfilled, otherwise I won't play any more," Stich said.

"I like playing Davis Cup but we'll have to wait and see what happens," he said. After a meeting Sunday with Stich, federation officials said he would play next year.

Stich blasted federation officials for what he said were inadequate security measures following a death threat he received before the match against Russia.

The death threat turned out to be a hoax. Stich said the man, who introduced himself as a Becker fan, called him back a day later to apologise, saying the threat



German Michael Stich leaves the centre court in Hamburg after losing to Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov 7-5, 6-3 during the Davis Cup World Group semifinals Sunday (AFP photo).

was a joke.

The threat cast a cloud over the semifinal match at the Rothenbaum club, where Monica Seles was stabbed in the back in April 1993 by a spectator who jumped from the stands. Seles, who was then the top-ranked woman player in the world, has not played since.

Stich accused the German Tennis Federation (DTB) of not taking the threat seriously and of failing to deal with the problem in a professional manner.

The federation defended its security measures, and said Stich was not aware of the 17 plainclothes policemen who were on duty at the court.

Claus Stauder, DTB president, said after meeting with Stich that "nothing stands in the way of him playing next

year."

Even if the dispute over the threat is quickly forgotten, there are other problems.

For the first time in a decade, a Davis Cup match in Germany was not sold out. German captain Niki Pilic and the players wanted to play in an indoor hall on a fast carpet.

But the DTB, which is based in Hamburg, picked its home arena at Rothenbaum and installed a new hard court over the usual clay surface. The hard court was similar to the surface on which Stich reached the final of the U.S. Open earlier this month.

It did not help. Stich was upset by Volkov Friday, before he learned that the death threat was a hoax.

"I don't want to look for

excuses, but this was the first time in 12 years that my team did not play on the surface that I wanted," said Pilic, whose team lost at home for the first time since the 3-2 defeat by Sweden in the 1985 final.

Germany, led by Becker, won in 1988 and 1989, while Stich guided the team to the title last year.

Becker's return seems uncertain. Stich, who has feuded with Becker in the past, and Pilic say he is welcome back, but only if he plays the entire year and not only in the later rounds.

Federation chiefs, aware that Becker remains the biggest drawing card for German fans, want Becker to return, even if he plays only one or two rounds. They have publicly chided Pilic for his uncompromising position.

## Capriati says she contemplated suicide

NEW YORK (AP) — Burned out by tennis and despairing over her appearance and relationships, Jennifer Capriati says she once thought about killing herself.

In an interview published Monday in the New York Times, Capriati spoke of a tennis career that began spectacularly at age 13 but left her in anguish four years later.

Her problems came to a head after losing in the first round of the 1993 U.S. Open. She had nightmares after losing in the open in 1991 and began crying incessantly after this latest loss.

"I started out OK, but at the end of the match I couldn't wait to get off the court," she told the newspaper. "Totally, mentally, I just lost it, and obviously it goes deeper than that one match."

"I really was not happy with myself, my tennis, my life, my parents, my coaches, my friends.... When I looked in my mirror, I actually saw this distorted image: I was so ugly and fat, I just wanted to kill myself, really."

Capriati, 18, last played professionally in the 1993 open. She was planning to make her comeback next week in Zurich, Switzerland, and the following week in Filderstadt, Germany.

However, the Times said, she was delayed her return because of a groin injury. It was not clear when she intends to play next.

Capriati told the Times she feels many of her problems stem from turning professional too early.

"I was always expected to be at the top, and if I didn't win, to me that meant I was a loser," she said. "I felt like my parents and everybody

else thought that tennis was the way to make it in life, they thought it was good, but I thought no one knew or wanted to know the person who was behind my tennis life."

Now, she said, "It's just a game to me now."

"I don't care about being no. 1, but I'm ready and willing to give it a battle, and that's what sports is all about.... There's no ending to my story yet."

Last year, Capriati withdrew from her family and in November moved into her own apartment in Boca Raton, Fla. Her legal problems began Dec. 10, 1993

when she was arrested for shoplifting but claims she accidentally took the ring from the store.

On May 16, she was arrested in a Coral Gables, Fla., motel on a misdemeanor charge of marijuana possession. She went into a 28-day treatment program.

Capriati, after having not touched a racket for months, said she realised she wanted to play tennis again last winter.

"It wasn't like I wanted to go back to it yet," she said. "But when I thought about the slams, I always thought, 'I'll be there again.'"

## Cheating alleged at Asian soccer tournament

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) — Asian football was reeling Monday following official allegations of widespread cheating at the Asian Under-19 championships in Jakarta.

On Sunday, Syria beat Japan 2-1 in the final. But Syria's triumph was clouded by Asian Football Confederation chief Peter Velappan's claim that "almost all participating teams" in the championships had fielded over-age players.

Velappan refused to identify the teams but said officials of those under suspicion had been ordered to produce, by October 31, school, military and employment records for all their players.

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